THE NATIONAL ERA.

L. P. NOBLE, PUBLISHER. G. BAILEY, JUN., EDITOR; AMOS A. PHELPS AND JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITORS. BUELL & BLANCHARD, PRINTERS.

VOL. I. WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1847. NO. 15.

The National Era is Published Weekly, on Seventh Street, opposite the Patent Office.

TERMS.

Two dollars per annum, *payable in advance.*

Advertisements not exceeding ten lines inserted three times for one dollar; every subsequent insertion, twenty-five cents.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICES.

☞ All communications relating to the *business matters* of the paper, &c., and particularly the names of subscribers, remittances, &c., should be addressed to L. P. Noble, Publisher.

☞ Orders are coming in daily for papers without the pay. No paper will be sent except the pay accompany the order. *Funds may be sent at our risk, by mail, taking care to have the letter put in an envelope, and well sealed,* directed, post paid, to the Publisher.

☞ We desire to call attention to the notice which asks correspondents, in all cases, when names are sent, to give the *county*, as well as post office and State. One correspondent writes, "It is of no consequence to give the name of the county." It is of consequence to us, as we cannot enter the names of subscribers till we ascertain the county. Let every name be distinctly written.

☞ Agents and others, in sending names, are requested to be very particular, and have each letter distinct. Give the name of the *Post Office*, the *County*, and the *State.*

☞ Agents or others having funds to forward are desired, if the amount be considerable, to purchase of some bank a draft on New York, Philadelphia, or Baltimore. Smaller amounts may be transmitted by mail, observing, when convenient, to send large bills on New England, New York, Philadelphia, or Baltimore banks. Do not send certificates of deposite.

☞ Accounts are kept with *each subscriber*, and when we receive money from him on his subscription, it is immediately passed to his credit, and a receipt therefor sent in his paper. If those who pay do not receive in a reasonable time receipts *from this office*, they are requested to notify the publisher, stating the time when and to whom paid.

☞ In transcribing names, it is probable that errors have occurred. Our friends are requested to notify us in such cases, that they may be immediately corrected.

☞ Agents will notice that we keep an account with each subscriber. Hence no accounts will be kept with the agents; and in transmitting moneys on which they are entitled to a commission, they will retain the amount of their commission, and, *in all cases*, forward the money with the names, so as to make the account even at each remittance.

☞ Any clergyman who will procure four subscribers, and send us eight dollars, may have a fifth copy gratis for one year.

L. P. NOBLE, *Publisher.*

THE NATIONAL ERA.

THE NEXT CONGRESS—REMARKABLE MOVEMENTS.

"*The next Congress.*—Representatives in the next Congress are yet to be chosen in Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Alabama, Mississipi, Louisiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Indiana. Eighteen States have already held their elections. The number of Representatives elected is, we believe, 138. Of these, 62 are Democrats, and 76 Federalists—giving, of the members already elected, a Federal majority of 14. There is good reason to believe that the two districts in New Hampshire which have failed to elect at the first trial will at the next effort return Democratic members, as the Democratic candidates lead their competitors by several hundred votes in both those districts. In this case, the Federal majority of the members already elected will be reduced to twelve. In Maine, there are four vacancies; and in Ohio, the death of Gen. Hamer in Mexico makes one vacancy. There has been one vacancy from New Hampshire during the whole of the last Congress.

Of the members yet to be elected, the Democrats had in the last Congress sixty members, and the Federalists twenty-nine, being a Democratic majority of thirty-one. Supposing the two districts of New Hampshire to elect Democrats, and deducting from this Democratic majority of thirty-one the above Federal majority of twelve, there will remain, if no further changes occur, a Democratic majority in the next House of nineteen. But in North Carolina, where the delegation now stands six Democrats to three Federalists, the Federal Legislature has altered the districts, and so heaped up the Democratic votes into a few districts, that they expect to gain three members. This will still leave a Democratic majority in the House of thirteen. We trust, however, that this loss in North Carolina, if it accrue, may be partially compensated by a Democratic gain in Connecticut, where the present delegation are all Federalists, and all candidates for re-election."—*Washington Union.*

The election in Connecticut has resulted in the re-election of the whole Whig delegation to the House of Representatives in Congress.

The *Albany Evening Journal* calculates on the following Whig gains: Virginia 3, Maryland 2, North Carolina 3, Alabama 1, Mississippi 1, Louisiana 1, Tennessee 1, Kentucky 1, Indiana 2, Iowa 1—which would secure a Whig majority in the next Congress.

In but two free States are elections to take place—Rhode Island and Indiana. The Representatives of the former voted last winter against the extension of slavery; and no matter who may be elected, their vote will doubtless be given the same way. The Indiana delegation was divided. Whether any who voted against the Wilmot proviso be candidates for re-election, we do not know; but it will be a disgrace to the State, should any of them be again returned. It is somewhat remarkable that thus far the subject has received no attention. The old parties appear to be perfectly indifferent to what is in fact the true issue before the country—Shall slavery be extended by the power of the General Government, or not? The South is indivisible. No man will receive a vote in that quarter, who is not known to be committed to the claims of slavery; but the claims of freedom are of so much less value, in the estimation of the people of Indiana, that they do not think it worth while to bestow a thought upon them!

Meantime, movements are going on in the slaveholding States which should read a lesson to Northern Whigs and Democrats. Mr. Calhoun and his friends are laboring to break up existing party organization, and to re-construct, from the fragments of all parties, a great pro-slavery party, pledged to the interests of slavery, and of course to the claims of Mr. Calhoun, or some other man whom he shall be pleased to honor with his confidence, as identified with Southern institutions. Hence they would frown down all compromise, refuse support to any national convention, and magnify the heresies of their quondam associates of the North, at the same time throwing out indirect hints to the Whigs, as to how much they might gain by being true to slaveholding interests. And there is a disposition on the part of some leading Whigs in the South to form an amalgamation, to merge all the ordinary issues of party in the great question of slavery extension. The following extract from the speech of Mr. Calhoun, at Columbia, S. C., describes with much force the policy of compromise adopted by both the Whig and Democratic leaders:

"But while it is seen that the Presidential election may be secured by counting the abolition votes, it is at the same time seen that it may be lost if the consequence should be the loss of the vote of the slaveholding States; and hence the leaders are forced to attempt to secure the former without losing the latter. The game is a difficult one; but, as difficult as it is, they do not despair of success, with the powerful instrument which they have under their control. They have, in the first place, that of the party press, through which a mighty influence is exerted over public opinion. The line of policy adopted is for the party press to observe a profound silence on this great and vital question; or, if they speak at all, so speak as to give a false direction to public opinion. Acting in conformity to this policy, of the two leading organs at the seat of Government, one never alludes to the question; so that, as far as its remarks are concerned, no one could suppose that it was the cause of the least agitation or feeling in any portion of the Union. The other occasionally alludes to it, when it cannot well avoid doing so; but only to palliate the conduct of those who assail us, by confounding them with our defenders as agitators, and holding both up equally to public censure. It is calculated, by pursuing this course, that the people of the slaveholding States will be kept quiet, and in a state of indifference, until another and still more powerful instrument can be brought into play, by which it is hoped that slaveholders and abolitionists will be coerced to join in nominating and supporting the same candidate for the Presidency. I allude to what is called a national convention, or caucus, for nominating candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency."

This is a perfectly clear and correct explanation of the policy of compromise; but it is somewhat remarkable, that a man like Mr. Calhoun does not understand how this is the best policy for perpetuating slavery. It is notorious that, up to this date, it has inured continually to the benefit of slavery. Abolitionists have been amused by local anti-slavery professions till the hour of nomination, and then, their party feelings having been thoroughly enlisted, their predilections are coolly disregarded, and they are called upon to vote a ticket in which the slaveholders have the lion's share. The history of politics in this country for the last twenty years proves this.

The *Washington Union*, clear-sighted enough to appreciate the advantages of this policy, is earnest in its opposition to the project of Mr. Calhoun. It foresees that, should it be carried into effect, the Democratic party is broken in twain, and the system of slavery will be exposed to all the perils resulting from making it the one great issue before the country. It knows that, so long as the policy of compromise, as it is called, shall be maintained, appliances enough can be brought to bear to take off the edge of Democratic anti-slavery zeal, and seduce the North into a disguised but still effectual support of slavery. Hence, its main efforts are now directed towards maintaining the "good old policy." For this it is bitterly denounced by the *Charleston Mercury* as a traitor to the interests of the South. Its reply to one of these attacks is highly suggestive.

"Once for all," it exclaims, "we spurn with contempt the claim of the Mercury to sit in judgment upon our fidelity to the rights and the interests of the Southern States. We learned that lesson of fidelity early, and in the best school of such teachings, and we learned it by heart. We have practiced that fidelity long, and in loyal devotion to the cause of our Federal Union, to the sacred guarantees and compromises of the Constitution, and to the integrity and harmony of the great Democratic party of the country, in which, first of all, and most of all, as we believe and trust, that Union, with all its compromises and guarantees, is to stand strong. From the first and to the last, we have rejected and condemned the doctrines of the Wilmot proviso. With faithful and unsleeping energy, we have battled in support of the present Administration, in its steadfast maintenance *of the rights of the South, and in its effort to carry out those great measures of Democratic policy which the Democracy of the South has always cherished as most cardinal and most dear.* In steadfast opposition to the Wilmot proviso, we have planted ourselves and we still stand upon the platform of the Missouri compromise—which has been recently reaffirmed by the resolutions of the Virginia Legislature, as amended by the Senate, and subsequently adopted by both Houses—the principles of which compromise, the South has no desire to disturb, and which, as a bar to most perilous sectional agitation, should, in our judgment, be held sacred by all parties and by both sections."

What are the "rights of the South," as contradistinguished from those of the North and West, that they should be the standard of a statesman's politics? If they are antagonistic to those of the North and West, then the avowal of the Union implies that the Administration is hostile to these sections of the Union; but if they are one with the rights of those sections, the Union is only guilty of using a little unmeaning rhetoric.

The Calhoun men, not content with denouncing the Democrats of the North, whose infidelity to slavery they are fond of magnifying, are making indirect overtures to the Whigs, which will not be without their effect. After elaborating a table of probabilities, the Washington correspondent of the *Charleston Mercury*, who does not speak at random, says:

"It follows that, if the South are united against an Abolition Democratic candidate, he cannot be elected. We will now see what would be the result, if the Whigs were to present a Presidential candidate, who would command the confidence and receive the vote of the South, in opposition to a Democratic Abolition candidate, that being the issue, and the South being united in opposition to Abolition.

"He would receive the entire slaveholding vote—say 123, and would require but 23 votes from all the non-slaveholding States to elect him. If the South were now so rallied, and public opinion so developed, as to convince the political leaders of the Whig party that the entire Southern vote would be given to a Whig candidate, who would give satisfactory guarantee to the South on the question of Abolition, can any believe for a moment that the Whigs would hesitate to nominate such a candidate? Do we not know that, apart from this question, the Whigs are now inclined to nominate General Taylor, because they believe that he will be an available candidate? Who, then, can hesitate to believe that, if the South are rallied, so as to convince both parties that no candidate who is tainted with the breath of suspicion on this subject can receive a single Southern vote, that both parties will compete for the vote of the South, by presenting candidates acceptable to the South?"

If many of the Whigs were inclined before to nominate Gen. Taylor, their number is vastly multiplied since the battle of Buena Vista. The abortive attempts of the Administration to displace Gen. Taylor, by the appointment of Mr. Benton as Lieutenant General; the painful suspense concerning the fate of the former and his little army—a suspense which for nearly two weeks racked the public mind, and concentrated its profoundest anxieties upon the old General; his triumphant repulse of an overwhelming Mexican force, under the command of the most distinguished of all the Mexican Generals, thrilling the nation with a joy infinitely enhanced by the previous uncertainty—have all created such a popular enthusiasm in his favor, that, just now, scarcely any other man seems to be thought of for President. Press after press is coming out in his support. Politicians pledged to other candidates are silent, fearful that any open opposition may only aggravate the popular feeling. Even papers which republished with acclamation the speech of Mr. Corwin, advocating the recall of the American forces from Mexican territory, denouncing without stint the war, and disparaging all the victories won by American arms, are now just as vehement in their rejoicings over the victories of Taylor, who has done more than all other men to win golden opinions for the war, and exalt its achievements!

It is curious to watch the course now of the various parties. One portion of the Democrats rather marvels that the Whigs, who so recently were scouting the idea of having another slaveholding Presidential candidate, should seriously think of nominating a large slaveholder—a sugar and cotton planter! Another portion would be willing to vote for Taylor, only let him be brought out as a candidate of the People, not of a party. But what say the Whigs? The peace advocates and anti-slavery men among them are silent; while the war-and-glory and compromise classes are all on tiptoe. The victory of Buena Vista they hail as a God-send. Says the New York *Courier and Enquirer:*

"To us, the idea of any President *appointing his successor*, has always been one of horror. We have trembled for the consequences to the institutions of our country. But there are exceptions to all general rules; and thank God, although President POLK has virtually nominated ZACHARY TAYLOR his successor to the Presidential chair, the people of the United States, much as they may despise the man who has placed him in nomination, will with one accord promptly, gratefully respond to it. All the parties and all the politicians in the country may combine against him; Abolitionism, Fourierism, and Radicalism, may unite to cry him down; the North may rally as it pleases upon WILMOT PROVISOS, and the cry of SLAVEHOLDER may be uttered from every Abolition Press and Abolition throat in the whole Union; but it will not avail. A great, generous, and grateful people, will unite with one accord to place him in the very seat of him who planned his destruction; and, by so doing, they will not only do honor to themselves, but they will once more, and we trust forever, hush the cry of disunion, and unite the North and the South in the bonds of fellowship and fraternal love. Honor—lasting honor—to General Taylor and the Spartan band with which he fought his way to Monterey."

The *Richmond* (Va.) *Whig* says:

Although we are still of opinion, as we have ever been, that it is too soon to open the Presidential campaign of 1848, and, for various reasons, deem it unwise and impolitic, at this early day, to bring forward candidates for that high station, it is nevertheless our duty, as a chronicler of public events, to note and record the developments of public opinion on this subject—particularly when, from so many quarters, they point to the same individual. That individual, we need scarcely say, is General ZACHARY TAYLOR—a man, until recently, comparatively unknown to the country, although, from the delicate and responsible positions which he has been more than once specially selected to fill, over the heads of superior officers, at critical periods, he was undoubtedly well known to the Administration as an officer of sound judgment, discretion, and ability. Certainly, he has, on every occasion in which he has been called to act, vindicated the propriety of his selection for the high and important trusts which have been confided to him. He has approved himself more than equal to every emergency, not only as a heroic soldier, but as an accomplished general—not only as a tactician in the field, but as a commander of profound genius and comprehensive intellect—equally competent to plan the details of a campaign over an extended area, and, with means to all human appearance wholly inadequate to the object in view, to carry that plan into successful execution, in the face of apparently insurmountable obstacles."

It would seem that the adaptation of this nomination to steer clear of the difficulties and agitations growing out of the slave question, is also understood by *Democratic politicians in the South.* The following extract is copied from the *Wytheville* (Va.) *Republican*, a Democratic paper published in the southwestern part of Virginia:

"In my humble judgment, the questions of tariff, bank, and distribution, which have divided the two political parties, are merged for years to come, probably forever. The tariff unquestionably is, for a time beyond the next Presidential term; for the national debt which has been incurred, and is now accruing, in the prosecution of the Mexican war, must be paid off—and a tariff necessary for that purpose will satisfy even the high protectionist.

"Then, in view of these considerations, where is the difficulty in uniting upon some one for President, who, from his position, is identified with Southern institutions and Southern interests? There really is none. Then, who is the man? I answer, General TAYLOR. The public mind is already turned towards him; and partisan politicians and office-holders and office-seekers may try, (but their efforts will be in vain,) to stop the mighty current in his favor. Efforts have already been made in the councils of the nation to dishonor him, but they have shared the fate they deserved, and the dishonor has fallen on their own heads. Gen. Zachary Taylor will be the people's candidate, despite the efforts of party or national conventions."

The view taken by this paper seems to strike with much force the mind of the Richmond Whig. It remarks:

"There is, however, one view of the question, presented both in the extracts from the Wytheville and New York papers, which cannot fail to attract the attention of the Southern people. We refer to the fact, that General Taylor is perhaps the only Southern man, who, by a union of Northern and Southern votes, can probably be elected in 1848."

What is to hinder Mr. Calhoun from giving his support to this movement? General Taylor is to him an object of high admiration. His plan of warfare is precisely that suggested by Taylor; the General is identified with the slaveholding caste; and the proposition is to disregard in his case the machinery of a nominating convention. What reason is there for doubting as to the course of Mr. Calhoun?

The following extract of an article in the *Richmond* (Va.) *Whig* shows that the way is fairly open for a union between the Whigs of the South and Mr. Calhoun's forces, should a suitable candidate be presented. The extract is from a communication enforcing the claims of Mr. Newton as candidate for a seat in Congress:

Alluding to the Wilmot proviso, it says:

"This startling 'proviso,' which passed the House of Representatives, came upon us, to use the language of Mr. Jefferson, 'like a fire-bell at midnight.' We see clearly the fixed determination of a very large portion of the Northern delegation to trample on Southern rights, in contempt of the spirit of compromise which was identified with the formation of our confederacy itself. As Southern men, we must regard this question as of paramount importance, and we think it portends great changes in the present organization of parties; *perhaps the formation, before the next session of Congress closes, of a great Southern party.*

We will not, however, speculate on this subject farther, but come to the candidates now before the people of the district. We know not what particular issues they may bring before the people at this time. The action of the President, in entailing upon the people of this country the present war; the conduct of the war since it commenced; its effect on the treasury; and, above all, its operation on the theory of free trade—all these may be discussed by Mr. Newton, in his lucid and logical manner. But we think, if we know the man, the subject which most occupies his mind is the issue now before the Congress of the nation, on which that 'eccentric politician,' as Mr. Ritchie used to call Mr. Calhoun, has taken so noble a stand. *On this subject, Mr. Newton, and all Southern Whigs, must act with Mr. Calhoun.* It is a matter of the first importance, that Virginia should send an able and well-informed delegation to the lower House of the next Congress, to defend the rights of the South from the fanaticism of the North. *In Mr. Newton, the district would have a Representative armed to the teeth on this subject.*"

Time will soon show what is to be the result of these remarkable movements in the political world. Should Taylor be brought out, his election would be sure. The South would rally upon him, without distinction of party; the Democrats of the North would be divided; and the Whigs would lay on the shelf for the time all their scruples about the war and slavery. Abolitionists could not vote for him. They could not support for the Presidency any man, just because he had distinguished himself by his military skill and prowess. It augurs nothing good to the republic, when the *prestige* of a successful soldier is deemed sufficient cause for his elevation to the Presidential chair. Much less could they give their support to one who has won all his victories in a war for the extension of the curse of domestic slavery. They may admire his bravery, his prudence, his forbearance as a soldier, his humanity as displayed in the capitulation of Monterey; but they cannot falsify their own principles, by helping to reward him with the highest office in the gift of these United States, for his services in a war, conceived, as they believe, in iniquity, and to result, they fear, in the extension of slavery and the final overthrow of the Union.

☞ Since we wrote the foregoing, the election in Rhode Island has resulted in the choice of a Whig delegation to Congress.

TONNAGE AND COMMERCE OF EACH STATE IN THE UNION.

[TABLES PREPARED FOR THE NATIONAL ERA.]

A statement of the number and class of vessels built, and the tonnage thereof, in each State and section of the United States, for the year ending the 30th of June, 1845.

BUILT IN THE FREE STATES.

States.	Class of vessels.						Total.
	Ships.	Brigs.	Schooners.	Sloops and canal boats.	Steamboats.	Total No. of ves'ls built.	Tons and 95ths.
Maine	43	33	82	-	2	160	31,105.04
New Hampshire	4	1	-	-	-	5	2,501.08
Vermont.							
Massachusetts	42	16	54	1	2	115	25,961.50
Rhode Island	3	-	2	2	1	8	1,661.26
Connecticut	1	2	16	2	1	22	2,607.76
New York	18	7	35	153	17	230	29,342.60
New Jersey	1	4	9	45	5	64	4,465.06
Pennsylvania	6	4	7	107	54	178	15,819.17
Ohio	-	4	10	-	42	56	11,599.39
Michigan	-	-	24	9	4	37	2,725.65
Total	118	71	239	319	128	875	127,788.66

BUILT IN THE SLAVE STATES.

States.	Class of vessels.						Total.
	Ships.	Brigs.	Schooners.	Sloops and canal boats.	Steamboats.	Total No. of ves'ls built.	Tons and 95ths.
Delaware	-	-	8	-	1	9	668.91
Maryland	4	15	47	-	-	66	7,257.44
Virginia	2	1	5	3	3	14	2,056.59
North Carolina	-	-	10	3	1	14	858.72
South Carolina	-	-	2	-	-	2	102.10
Georgia	-	-	1	-	-	1	83.14
Florida	-	-	3	-	1	4	257.04
Alabama	-	-	1	-	-	1	79.70
Mississippi.							
Louisiana	-	-	6	2	6	14	626.62
Tennessee	-	-	-	-	1	1	141.47
Kentucky	-	-	-	-	26	26	5,681.01
Missouri.							
District of Columbia	-	-	-	15	-	15	416.32
Total	6	16	83	23	39	167	18,229.31

Secretary of the Treasury's Report for 1845, page 262.

A statement of the amount of registered, enrolled, and licensed tonnage, of the vessels owned in each State and section of the United States, on the 30th day of June, 1845.

Owned in the free States.	Tons and 95ths.	Owned in the slave States.	Tons and 95ths.
Maine	320,059.67	Delaware	11,934.59
Vermont	2,318.73	Maryland	118,164.38
New Hampshire	23,770.75	Dist. Columbia	20,617.13
Massachusetts	524,994.89	Virginia	50,705.09
Rhode Island	47,209.02	North Carolina	39,861.90
Connecticut	91,568.14	South Carolina	19,615.23
New York	625,875.01	Georgia	16,140.31
New Jersey	69,970.41	Florida	11,355.25
Pennsylvania	147,812.25	Alabama	17,909.58
Ohio	35,296.91	Mississippi	1,055.43
Michigan	19,775.67	Louisiana	170,525.23
		Tennessee	2,809.23
		Kentucky	8,751.02
		Missouri	18,905.69
Total	1,908,651.70	Total	508,350.31

Secretary of the Treasury's Report for 1845, pp. 241, 242.

A statement of the commerce of each State and section of the Union, from the 1st of July, 1844, to the 30th of June, 1845.

COMMERCE OF THE FREE STATES.

States.	Value of exports.	Value of imports.	Total exp'ts and imports.
Maine	$1,255,105	$855,645	$2,110,750
New Hampshire	2,384	22,689	25,073
Vermont	542,607	81,997	624,604
Massachusetts	10,351,030	22,781,024	33,132,054
Rhode Island	191,032	274,330	465,362
Connecticut	969,055	372,075	1,341,130
New York	36,175,298	70,909,085	107,084,383
New Jersey	–	829	829
Pennsylvania	5,574,363	8,159,227	11,733,590
Ohio	321,114	78,196	399,310
Michigan	251,220	41,952	293,172
Total	–	–	157,210,257

COMMERCE OF THE SLAVE STATES.

States.	Value of exports.	Value of imports.	Total exp'ts and imports.
Delaware	$138,195	$2,274	$140,469
Maryland	5,221,977	3,741,804	8,963,781
Dist. of Columbia	510,164	70,529	580,693
Virginia	2,104,581	267,658	2,372,239
North Carolina	379,960	230,470	610,430
South Carolina	8,890,648	1,143,158	10,033,806
Georgia	4,557,435	206,301	4,763,736
Alabama	10,538,228	473,491	11,011,719
Louisiana	27,157,465	7,354,397	34,511,862
Mississippi	–	738	738
Tennessee	–	6,929	6,929
Missouri	–	54,429	54,429
Kentucky	–	17,469	17,469
Florida	1,514,745	107,868	1,622,613
Total	–	–	74,690,913

Total value of exports and imports of the free States	$157,210,257
Total value of exports and imports of the slave States	74,690,913
Difference	82,519,344

showing the commerce of the free States to be more than double that of the slave States.—*Taken from page 228 of the Secretary of the Treasury's Report for the year 1845.*

W. G.

For the National Era.

GRACE DARLING.

BY MISS ALICE CAREY.

It is beautifully recorded of this flower of peasant girls, who was removed from her native island to England for the benefit of her health, where she was overwhelmed with presents, and visited by the first ladies of the court, that when she felt the hand of death upon her, she desired to be carried back to her cottage home, where she died as she had lived, a heroine.

Sick of the glitter of lordly halls,
With marble pavements and pictured walls,
I would give the pearls on my brow that press,
For the dewy buds of the wilderness;
And my purple stole, with its ermine weighed,
For the simple dress of the mountain maid!

I dream of the sunset's golden glow,
Reddening the rocks and the beach below,
Where children, greeting the homeward skiffs,
Are sweeter than roses among the cliffs—
Of the emerald moss, and the bright blue-bells,
That gladden the home where my father dwells.

The roof of that cabin is rude and low,
And roughly around it the storm winds blow;
But the wildest spot of the earth is fair,
If all that the heart holds dear be there;
And clustering thickly, or long and white,
The locks we love will be always bright!

My brow with fever at strife beats quick;
Yes, my heart is faint, and my head is sick;
I would be in the haunts of the singing bird,
Where the leaves with the flutter of wings are stirred,
And light like jewels is dropping through,
And cool its pulses with mountain dew!

Where the foxgloves bloom and the heath flowers lie
In the tender light of my native sky,
From the viol's song and the wine cup's glow,
To the home I would die in, O let me go!
Where the lamp of the lighthouse reddens the sea
Is the sweetest spot of the world to me.

For the National Era.

LAW.

MR. EDITOR: I have been not a little amused by the rebuke administered to you by the Rev. Beriah Green, for venturing to assert that "the doctrine that law is no law, unless it be a righteous one," has no other force than that derived from a play of words, and by his instructing you in your duty "clearly to show and emphatically to affirm that justice is the very soul of law—is *essential to obligation.*" Not content with giving you your lesson, he proceeds to school your readers, and forbids them to "regard any unrighteous law with the least respect—with any other sentiment than deep abhorrence—as a thing to be *resisted, trampled under foot.*" Now, Mr. Editor, should you promulgate such a palpable untruth as "that law is no law, unless it be a righteous one," I, for one, should cease to be your admirer and reader; and as to the advice given me, as one of your readers, to resist and trample under foot every unrighteous law, my fear of God, my love of country, and my regard for my own peace and comfort, will restrain me from following it. But at the same time I do, as a Christian, trample under foot the reverend gentleman's aphorism, "If it be law, it *ought to be obeyed.*" There are many valid constitutional laws, to which a Christian ought to refuse obedience, at the hazard of life itself. Mr. Green would, I doubt not, shrink from carrying out his own theory. He has a great abhorrence of a protective tariff. In his opinion, it is an unrighteous law, and, therefore, *no law;* and, of course, a thing to be resisted, and trampled under foot. Would he, as a minister of Christ, advise our merchants to regard the law as no law, and, therefore, to smuggle their goods; or to make battle with the custom-house officers, and forcibly to land their goods without paying duties? Again: Mr. Green regards the law of New York, denying the right of suffrage to all colored citizens except freeholders, as unrighteous, and therefore not to be regarded with the *least respect.* Would he, acting as inspector of an election, trample this law under foot, and knowingly receive illegal votes? Once more: it will scarcely be denied that it is both our right and our duty to rescue a fellow man from the hands of a murderer. Very many regard all laws inflicting capital punishment as unrighteous; and, so regarding them, Mr. Green teaches them to resist and trample under foot such laws. Now, would Mr. Green think it a Christian act in these men forcibly to rescue a felon from the sheriff, who was leading him to execution? Every man has as much right as Mr. Green to adjudge a law unrighteous; and therefore, according to him, every man has the right *to resist* any law he may so condemn. But it may so happen, that what Mr. Green approves, his neighbor may condemn. Mr Green, we suppose, is in favor of a law prohibiting the sale of spirituous liquors. The rumseller denounces the law, as unjust; and as justice is, according to Mr. Green, essential to obligation, and the authority of legislators and judges is set aside, and that of opinion is paramount, I see not how Mr. Green is, consistently with his principles, to enforce the law, or to punish its violation.

It is astonishing that a man of Mr. Green's education and talents should have involved himself in such a labyrinth of difficulties and absurdities.

The validity of a human law does not and cannot depend on its justice and righteousness, which are matters of individual opinion, but upon the political authority of the legislator to enact it. The very existence of civil government rests upon this principle; and if every citizen was at liberty *to resist* and trample upon every law which he considered unjust, the bands of civil society would be immediately dissolved. Mr. Green confounds submission with obedience, and resistance with disobedience; and hence the mistakes into which he has fallen. We are required to *submit* to every ordinance of man. But multitudes of these ordinances are iniquitous, and cannot be obeyed without a violation of the divine law. What is to be done? Mr. Green says, Do not regard them with the least respect; resist them, trample them under foot; they are not laws; they have no obligation. Not so; we must disobey where obedience would be, in our opinion, sinful; but then these iniquitous laws are not nullities; and, as good subjects, we must *submit to the penalties* they impose on us for our disobedience. Thus there is no rebellion, no anarchy. We honor the law of God, and we submit to the ordinance of man. The Quaker refuses obedience to the law requiring him to perform military duty; but he does not resist and treat as a robber the officer who seizes his property as a penalty for his disobedience.

Old John Bunyan understood this subject better than Mr. Green seems to do. He insisted that God required him to preach the Gospel, although the law of the land prohibited him. When reminded by the magistrate that Scripture enjoins obedience to the powers that be, he replied: "Sir, the law hath provided two ways of obeying: the one, to do that which I in my conscience do believe I am bound to do actively; and where I cannot obey actively, then I am *willing to lie down, and to suffer what they shall do unto me.*" He admitted the validity of the law, and *therefore* submitted to its penalties.

A. B.

For the National Era.

INFLUENCE OF CIRCUMSTANCES.

MESSRS. EDITORS: To how great an extent are our views modified by our circumstances! Much as men differ in their opinions and practices, are not the operations of their minds very similar? Different facts are presented to different minds; hence their conclusions are at variance.

When enthusiastic Abolitionists are placed in the midst of slavery and its influences, how often do we see a surprising alteration in their views! And if some of those whose opposition to *abolitionism* is so determined, were transplanted into Northern society, and could listen to such expositions of man's rights and duties as are familiar to our ears, might not remarkable conversions occur?

What, then, should we infer? That the deep interest felt in this question is causeless? This does not follow. That efforts to bring about unity of views are hopeless? By no means. From the fact that the workings of our minds, in like circumstances, are so generally alike, I infer, 1st, that we should always maintain good temper in our discussions; 2d, that the ascendency of correct views is to a great degree certain, where truth is properly presented.

The Abolitionist may believe that the honor of his country is tarnished, its resources exhausted, its moral and social progress obstructed, by slavery. He may believe that humanity is afflicted and degraded by it, and his natural sympathy for what concerns *man* may thus be aroused. Regarded as an injustice, which calls for retribution upon the nation whose authority sustains it, it may rest heavily upon his conscience; and his efforts, which seem to others aggressive, may appear to him nothing more than a defence of the most sacred trusts.

On the other hand, persons brought up in familiarity with the customs of slavery may believe, that, though lamentable and inscrutable, it is one of those dispensations of Providence which admit of no human remedy; or that, if its removal be not absolutely impossible, it must be attended with so much evil, that it is not to be desired; that the obstacles to its abolition in this country are such and so great as to render it utterly improbable; and that the agitation of a project so hopeless can have no other than evil consequences.

If, now, the former be in error, in thinking that slavery is entailing dishonor and disaster on the country, let his error be shown; when this is fairly and clearly done, many patriotic hearts will regain a satisfaction of which their painful views on this subject have long deprived them. And this is the only thing which can effectually calm the agitation of the question, while slavery exists; violence of word or act, whenever and wherever used, can only increase and inflame it. If, on the contrary, these views be just, it becomes the duty of those who hold them—a high duty to their country and race—to remove the difficulties from the minds of the supporters of slavery. Let him whose imagination presents him with ideas of rapine and ruin, as the results of emancipation, be persuaded of his lack of confidence in truth, in moral power, in GOD. Let him be shown, by satisfactory reasonings and truth-telling facts, that, instead of involving him in difficulties, it is the appropriate remedy of those he now experiences; that, so far from bringing his community to poverty, it is their only road to prosperity and wealth; that the removal of this antagonism is requisite to the durable harmony and to the full development of the powers of the nation.

Thus let the honest Southern mind be convinced, as thousands of intelligent men now are, that honor and interest unitedly, clearly, and urgently demand the extinction of slavery, and the work will be done. When to the higher motives of justice and humanity we can join that of certain and speedy advantage, there is no people so insensible as not to feel their force.

J. N. C.

MAGNOLIA, ILL.

Another Feather in the Cap of American Enterprise.—Mr. Loon Lewenberg, of Williamsburg, N. Y., has recently completed a large refractory telescope, out of American materials, which has elicited a great deal of approbation from the American Institute. It has eight and a half inches aperture, and a focal distance of fourteen feet. It is mounted on a convenient carriage, with all the necessary apparatus for direction, and its weight is half a ton. This instrument can be afforded for $5,000, and is pronounced by competent judges to be equal to those of Europe which cost $10,000. A committee from the American Institute are about to ask permission of the Common Council to exhibit this telescope to the people of New York, for which purpose they will ask the privilege of erecting a temporary shed in the Park, opposite the City Hall. The aperture of this telescope is half an inch wider than that in the Cincinnati telescope, the cost of which was $14,000. All this seems to be in keeping with the other attainments of American enterprise.

GENERAL NEWS.

TWO DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

By the arrival at this port of the packet ship Northumberland from London, and the Columbia from Liverpool, we have advices from both those cities to the 6th ultimo, two days later than those received by the Hibernia.

The cotton market remains unchanged.

The money market is easy.

The price of corn is rising.

A full reconciliation has taken place between M. Guizot and Lord Normanby.

FRANCE.—The *Journal des Debats* devotes a long article to the question of the establishment of a line of communication by *steam between the ports of France and the continent of America,* and urges upon the Chamber of Deputies the necessity of adopting the bill now before it for that purpose.

The Chamber of Deputies met on Wednesday, when the Minister of the Interior presented a bill granting the sum of *four millions of francs in aid of the public charitable institutions of the kingdom, in consequence of the high price of provisions.*

A good deal of interest is felt in Paris as to the modification of the duties on cotton and iron, which it is understood to be the intention of the French Government to introduce about the end of the present month. At present, manufactured cottons are entirely prohibited in France, but it is understood their introduction will be allowed, at a duty of from 25 to 30 per cent. on the valuation.

This duty is of itself so enormous that it will amount pretty nearly to a complete prohibition, but still it is understood that it will be vigorously opposed by the manufacturers who at present enjoy the monopoly. The duty upon iron is at present 20 per cent., and it is understood that the Minister intends to propose its reduction to 10 per cent.

A postscript to our Paris letter contains the following:

"M. Guizot has just received an invitation to dinner for Tuesday, the 16th instant, from Lord and Lady Normanby. Thus the reconciliation is complete, for M. Guizot will reply to-morrow to the English Ambassador, that he cordially accepts the invitation."

SPAIN.—The accounts from the north of Spain still describe the Carlists as daily increasing in number and strength.

The new loan is meeting with considerable opposition in the Congress.

GERMANY.—A letter from Berlin, dated February 22, says:

"It has been this day decided that Prince Solms-Hohensolms-Lich is to be President of the General Diet, which opens on the 11th April.

"It was stated at one time by the newspapers, that Count d'Araim de Boitzenburg, late Minister of the Interior, would be Marshal of the Diet. He was, in fact, nominated to that post by the King, but positively refused to undertake the duties."

INDIA.—Despatches from Bombay to the 1st of February. They bring interesting intelligence.

The affairs of Lahore were going on slowly, the Governor General, having regulated the Government of that country, and placed Col. Lawrence as resident and Sir John Littler at the head of the British troops, left that capital on the 11th of January, and proceeded to the protected Sikh States.

The Lahore army has been ordered to be reduced, and Cortlandt's battalions were ordered to be disbanded.

The state of the frontiers of Affghanistan was precarious, but the British agents were on the alert.

The turbulent Akbar Khan had proceeded to attack the chiefs of Candahar, who are his own relatives; and he has succeeded, after some severe fighting, in capturing the chiefs, and in making himself master of Candahar. It is said that the Persian monarch was to be applied to on behalf of the dispossessed chiefs.

The proceedings of this unprincipled Vizier, whose name must be ever infamous from his being the promoter of the murder of Sir W. H. McNaughten, are likely to cause some commotion in Central Asia.

The Booghties were still as lawless as ever on the frontiers. The colonel and officers of the Bombay regiment of cavalry, who had gone to reconnoitre the position of the Booghties, are now said to have been misled by a mirage.

In the interior of India, tranquillity prevailed. In the once distracted provinces of Bundelkund, order and regularity were beginning to be permanently established.

EXPORT OF CORN TO FRANCE.—A vessel arrived in the river at the commencement of the week, from a port on the Lincolnshire coast, with a cargo of corn, which was intended for the London market, but which, on its arrival, was immediately bought up, and, without being landed here, exported to France.

The Paris *Presse* states that the Government of Wurtemberg has contracted a loan with the house of Rothschilds & Grunelins, of Frankfort-on-the-Maine, for the completion of railroads through that country. The amount of the loan is 12,000,000 florins, (nearly £1,000,000 sterling,) and will bear interest at the rate of 4½ per cent.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET, MARCH 4.—The sales to-day are 4,000 bales, nearly all to the trade. The market is quiet, and without change in price.

LIVERPOOL CORN TRADE, MARCH 4.—The corn market is steady, without much business doing. The wind still continues from the east, and there is not a single arrival from sea to-day.

LONDON CORN MARKET, MARCH 5.—At this day's market there was again a good demand for English wheat, at an advance of fully 2s. per quarter, and a good extent of business transacted in foreign, at a like improvement; the French buyers increasing their purchases.

An inquiry made by several Belgian houses. Flour 1s. per bbl. dearer. Indian corn and meal in active request for Ireland, at improved rates. A large arrival of foreign oats has farther depressed this article 1s. to 1s. 6d. per quarter, and no more confidence shown by buyers, who appear unwilling to operate beyond their present requirements, even at this reduction. Barley steady, and no change in the value of other grain.

LIVERPOOL PROVISION MARKET, FRIDAY.—The stock of butter in this market is light, and prices vary from 80s. to 89s. Bacon and hams are in steady request at 64s. for the former, and 74s. for the latter. Lard in kegs is selling at 56s., in bladders at 64s. Beef and lard in good demand for ship stores.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET, MARCH 5.—The imports this week were 7,233 bales, and the sales reach 26,300 bales, as follows:

Sales this week.—300 Sea Islands, at 12 a 22; 10 stained ditto, 10 a 0; 2,780 Upland, 5½ a 7½; 10,020 New Orleans, 5½ a 9; 1,980 Alabama, &c., 5½ a 6¾.

Same period in 1846.—210 Sea Islands, 12 a 16¾; stained ditto, 0 a 0; 4,600 Upland, 3⅜ a 4⅝; 12,700 New Orleans, 3¾ a 6; 3,230 Alabama, &c., 3½ a 4⅜.

Up to March 5:	1847.	1846.
Taken on speculation	88,000 bales.	54,100 bales.
Taken for export	10,300 do.	9,500 do.
Taken by the trade	150,940 do.	268,940 do.
Stock in Liverpool	468,600 do.	811,800 do

ANOTHER GREAT BATTLE IN NEW MEXICO.

Brilliant Victory—Overwhelming Defeat of two thousand Mexicans.

The Louisville Courier of the 2d instant contains the following letter from St. Louis:

ST. LOUIS, *Monday Evening, March* 29.

MR. W. N. HALDEMAN:

DEAR SIR: We have this moment received an express from Santa Fe. The Mexican insurrectionists, numbering two thousand men, marched down to Santa Fe, as was intimated by our last advices. They were met by Capt. Morris's command in the valley of the Moro, and totally defeated. A great number of the enemy were killed and wounded, and the rest fled precipitately to the mountains. The action was a most brilliant one on the part of our men, and reflects much credit on their coolness and courage.

The news of the assassination of Gov. Bent is fully confirmed. Twenty-five other Americans fell at the same time.

I have no time for further particulars, as the steamer Colorado, by which I send this, is preparing to shove out.

OUR CORRESPONDENCE.

BOSTON, *April* 6, 1847.

The usual monthly concert of prayer for the conversion of the world was held by a union of churches in the Park-street church, on Sabbath evening last, and letters were read which had been recently received from several of the missionary stations.

A letter has been received from the Rev. Mr. Bryant, who left a congregation in this State last year, to become a messenger of salvation to Southern Africa.

He arrived, with his lady, at Port Natal, on the 15th of August, and proceeded at once to the station occupied by Dr. Adams, among the Caffres. His accounts of the natives and their language are favorable, as well as the ease with which they may be approached. Their language he describes as euphonious, and not difficult to acquire, and their anxiety for instruction very great.

The Sabbath after his arrival, he attended Dr. Adams's Sabbath school, at which about 200 natives were present. Divine service was attended in the chapel, holding about 600 people, which was soon filled, and crowds stood without, for want of room. The men, on entering, left their war clubs without, and during the whole sermon the utmost order was observed; and although many of the people had walked eight, ten, and twelve miles in the sun, and were unaccustomed to sitting still anywhere, there was neither *nodding* nor other signs of inattention to be seen among them.

A letter from Rev. Wm. Grout (December 2) states that the Government has determined to devote a large tract of very rich land for the location of a mission. He has recently completed a chapel and a room to be used for a school room, but that the place is already too small for them.

The English and Scotch missions have suffered much from the effects of the war between the wild Caffres (to the east of our missions) and the colony of the Cape. Their buildings have been totally destroyed, and they obliged to abandon their stations entirely.

TURKEY.—An account is given by Rev. Mr. Ladd, of Broosa, of an excommunicated Armenian about to make a journey for the sale of books, who applied to the priest for a certificate, (which, it seems, is required in order to procure a Government passport,) but was refused.

The Turkish authorities learned the fact, sent for the applicant, and questioned him as to the cause of the refusal, when he stated that it was because he had left his old religion, and read the Bible. He was told to call on the following morning, and a passport would be ready for him. This is not the first case of similar interference by the Government in favor of our missionaries and their agents.

The church at Constantinople is now under the care of a native pastor, and is in a highly flourishing condition. Mr. Dwight, in a recent letter, speaks in terms of high commendation of the pastor. Rev. Mr. Van Lennep writes that while on a late visit to Beyroot, he spent a short time at the Island of Cyprus, where, the previous season, were two hopeful converts. To his surprise, he found now, instead of two, eighteen; and this in a population of only thirty houses. With no other aid, the two men had read the Scriptures to their neighbors, and an interesting revival of religion was the result.

Mr. Van Lennep was at Beyroot during the session of the Syrian mission, and states his conviction of its great importance and usefulness, which he says are not fully known. The mission voted to ask a reinforcement of six more missionaries to that station. There are now three appointed, who will sail the first opportunity.

At Trebizond, Rev. Mr. Bliss writes that the mission is becoming stronger, though not increasing in numbers. Opposition is dying away. Much difficulty has existed in getting females to attend the meetings, but they now come in considerable numbers.

An account was received from Dr. Wright, of Oroomiah, of the visitation of that place by cholera, and also of its progress through Persia for the last year. Dr. W. says, that in Oroomiah the proportion of deaths to the number of persons attacked was about one to two, or one-half. In speaking of the appearance, treatment, &c., of this strange disease, Dr. W. quotes the summary of Andral, of Paris: "*Anatomical characters*, insufficient; *causes*, mysterious; *nature*, hypothetical; *symptoms*, characteristic; *diagnosis*, easy; *treatment*, doubtful."

G. F. B.

CLEVELAND, O., *March* 17, 1847.

FRIEND BAILEY: I especially congratulate you upon the beautiful and vigorous appearance of the *National Era.*

* * * * * * * *

Again have professed Democrats yielded, and again has slavery triumphed. The power and spirit of liberty is impotent over the hearts of our rulers. The behest of slavery is supreme, and to it must (or does) succumb the principles and efforts of men in all stations. Few and far between are the exceptions to the general rule—political decapitation and general censure awaits the man who possesses magnanimity sufficient to assert and maintain the interest and well-being of his country. Private intrigue and menacing generally effect the object; but where this fails, Executive patronage is brought to bear.

Repeatedly have the prospects of freedom appeared flattering and auspicious, but in an evil hour the dark spirit of oppression rallied the worshippers at her shrine, and the diadem of slavery is brightened with the glory of successive triumph.

It is indeed difficult to recognise, in our own present condition as a nation, any real similarity of principle or government with that originally established. The binding and organic truths which then constituted the vital essence of the Union, are now disavowed, or generally unheeded in practice. Is there yet hope left? Are there those who yet emulate and practice the principles and sentiments of their fathers?

"A day, an hour, of virtuous liberty,
Is worth a whole eternity of bondage."

I know that "here and there a scattered few remain," whose principles are superior to party, and whose love of liberty outweighs their aspirations for place, power, or preferment, to whom a condition of republican slavery presents irreconcilable incongruities, and is of necessity palpably absurd. While I may be confident of this, I can entertain hope that the liberties of the country are not past retrieval. While in the Senate there is a Corwin to vindicate, and in the House a Giddings and an Adams to rebuke and defend, while all over our country I can recognise those whom the blandishments of slavery do not seduce, nor its violence intimidate, but who rely upon the PEOPLE—whose own liberty is thus constantly jeopardized, for a final vindication of the inalienable rights of man; I say, while such as these may yet be found, there is a ray of promise, room for hope.

John C. Calhoun! Strange man! To what disastrous and repugnant ends do all his gigantic efforts point! A combination of the mightiest faculties, exercised only on important and urgent occasions; and yet all, *all*, for the sustenance and extension of the curse of *human slavery!* Others there are who follow in his train, and still others, sufficiently open to threatening, or the allurements of the *almighty dollar*, never to disobey, or at least ultimately to yield.

L. W. F.

For the National Era.

FEAR NOT.

"*Fear not; I will help thee.*"—ISAIAH, xli, 13.

When in sorrow's dark vale you may comfortless stray,
And night spread its pall o'er your desolate way,
O mourner, look up, through the dimness of tears,
Thy Saviour will help thee, and lighten thy cares.

Do darkness and doubt settle thick round thy path,
With storm clouds above thee, and thunders of wrath?
Look up, for thy Saviour thy fears can quell;
"Fear not," gentle Mercy the clouds shall dispel.

Is thy tempest-tossed bark on the wild billows driven,
While angry winds mingle the ocean with heaven?
With no compass to guide thee, no beacon light near,
Thy soul growing sick with the chill of despair?

Look upward, for Bethlehem's Star is thy guide;
See, brightly it beams o'er the dark, rolling tide;
"Fear not," for thy Saviour the tumult has still'd,
The clouds that hang o'er thee with mercy are filled.

Bold Reformer, all harness'd and girt for the field,
God's truth for thy weapon, and faith for thy shield,
"Fear not," for the strength of the Lord is thy might;
Press onward, God speed thee, thou friend of the right.

Poor, penitent soul, with thy sins sorely press'd,
Does conscience torment thee, guilt "murder thy rest?"
O, look to thy Saviour! he'll freely forgive;
"Fear not," he has *died* that thy spirit *might live.*

Humble Christian, oft scorn'd for thy lowliness here,
The child of affliction, and penury's heir,
"Fear not," for thou canst not in sorrow repine,
While Heaven is thy treasury, and Jesus is thine.

"Fear not," dying Christian, thy race is now run,
Thou hast borne well the conflict, and victory won;
To the home of the bless'd thy freed spirit shall go,
And glory eternal encircle thy brow.

K.

Winchester, Adams County, Ohio.

58

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 15, 1847.

☞ Our correspondence this week will richly repay a perusal.

THE COLONIAL CHARTERS—THE SOMERSETT CASE.

To-day we commence the examination of the three points in controversy between the *Emancipator* and ourselves—the Relations of the Colonial Charters to Slavery, the Legalization of the Slave Trade, the Extent of the Application of the Principle decided in the Somersett case.

The first and third points are united, and made the staple of one argument by the editor of that paper, the whole of which we shall quote:

"We think it unfortunate that any one should have undertaken to discuss the bearings of the Constitution upon slavery, without taking the trouble to inform himself respecting the colonial charters; because it is clear, that if slavery ever had a legal existence in this country, it obtained its legality from the colonial governments, which were strictly derivative, and limited by their charters. These charters prohibited the passing of any laws contrary to the laws of England. Hence it is argued, most conclusively, that when the decision in Somersett's case settled the point, that slavery of negroes was contrary to the laws of England, that decision annihilated all supposed legal authority for slavery in the *chartered* colonies. Its bearing upon the *crown* colonies, which were mostly conquered provinces, involves other considerations.

"This argument the *Era* wholly passes by, for the want of time to examine the charters, but at the same time affirms that, 'as far as we remember, they did not prohibit the establishment of slavery, and were not repugnant to it.' We maintain that they did prohibit it, by prohibiting all laws contrary to the laws of England, which slavery was; and that they are wholly repugnant to it, by extending to the colonies the *habeas corpus* and all other defences of personal freedom which rendered slavery impossible in England. And, consequently, all pretended laws of the colonies, 'ordaining the condition of slavery, and dooming certain persons to that relation,' were wholly void, created no rights, and established no obligations."

We suffer the *Emancipator* to speak for itself. It presents in these two paragraphs all that can be adduced in support of the assumption that the colonial charters prohibited slavery. If this argument be unsound, the assumption falls to the ground.

Our position is, that the colonial charters did *not* prohibit slavery; and, in the course of the argument to sustain it, we shall prove that the laws of England not only did not forbid slavery in the colonies, but plainly and positively sanctioned and supported every part of the slave system; and that the decision in the Somersett case was confined exclusively to *England*.

The *Emancipator* might have spared itself the trouble of imputing to us ignorance of the nature of the colonial charters. We had read the history of the origin of the colonies, but, when we penned our comments on the Massachusetts resolutions, not having their charters before us, had spoken from recollection. Since then we have examined the charters of Massachusetts, Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and the three charters of Virginia, and the investigation confirms the accuracy of our recollection. Not one of all these charters prohibits slavery, or refers to it in any way. Nor is the *habeas corpus* secured, except under a general grant, which at the same time *confines it expressly to the subjects of the King and their children going to the colonies.** The grant which is incorporated in nearly all the charters is thus written in that of Massachusetts Bay:

"Wee doe hereby for us, our heires and successors, ordeyne and declare, and graunte to the said Governor and company, and their successors, that all and every the subjects of us, our heires or successors, which shall goe and inhabite within the said landes and premises hereby menconed to bo graunted, and everie of their children which shall happen to be borne there, or on the sea in goeing thither, or returning from thence, shall have and enjoy all liberties and immunities of free and naturall subjects within any of the Domynions of us, our heires and successors, to all intents, construcoons, and purposes whatsoever, as yf they and everie of them were borne within the realme of England."

This is a noble grant; but all its gracious privileges, it is seen, are in the strictest terms confined to the "subjects" of the King or of his successors, who may emigrate to the colonies, and *to their children*, born there. In no other way, to no greater extent are secured "the defences of personal freedom," including the habeas corpus.

The charter of Massachusetts Bay vested in the governor, deputy governor, and a certain number of assistants, all governmental power. They were authorized to "elect and constitute such officers as they shall think fitt and requisite for the ordering, managing, and dispatching of the affaires of the saide Governor and company, and their successors; and *to make laws and ordinances for the good and welfare of the said company, and for the government and ordering of the saide landes and plantations, and the people inhabiting and to inhabit the same, as to them from tyme to tyme shall be thought meete*." This implied a complete delegation of legislative power.

The charter of Massachusetts may be taken as a fair specimen of the rest of the New England charters. That of Virginia was different. It placed the colony at the mercy of the King. It was governed, at first directly, at a later period indirectly, by a council in England, constituted by the Crown; and it is well known that the legislative power of the King over the colony was admitted at that day.

Whether then, in the King, Council, or Governor and assistants, the legislative power was complete, and within its sphere competent to do anything which King, Lords and Commons, could do in England, with this single exception—*no law could be passed violating the laws of England*. This exception was always inserted in the form of a proviso, after the grant of legislative powers; and it may not be uninteresting to trace it from the time of Elizabeth.

In the letters patent granted by that Queen to Sir Humphrey Gilbert, "for the inhabiting and planting of our people in America," the proviso is as follows:

"So alwaies that the said statutes, lawes and ordinances may be, as neere as conveniently may, agreeable to the form of the lawes and pollicie of England."

"So always as the said statutes, lawes and ordinances may be as neere as conveniently may be, agreeable to the form of the lawes, statutes, government, or pollicie of England."—*Letters Patent to Sir Walter Raleigh.*

The second charter of Virginia conferred legislative power on the treasurer and company of the colony, under the same restriction:

"So always as the saide statutes, ordinances and proceedings, as near as conveniently may be, be agreeable to the laws, statutes, government and policy of this our realm of England."

"So *always*, as the same be not contrary to the laws and statutes of this our realm of England."—*Third Charter of Virginia.*†

A restriction in precisely the same language was imposed by James in the grant to the council of Plymouth for the government of New England.

"So as such laws and ordinances be not contrarie or repugnant to the lawes and statutes of this our realme."—*Charter of Massachusetts Bay.*

"Not repugnant nor contrary, but as agreeable, as near as may be, to the laws of England."—*Charter of Maine*, 1637.

"So as such laws, ordinances, and Constitution, so made, be not contrary and repugnant unto, but, as near as may be, agreeable to the laws of this our realm of England, considering the nature and constitution of the people there."—*Charter of Rhode Island.*

Similar restrictions were imposed in the other charters.

It will be noticed that the Emancipator rests the whole argument in the paragraph above quoted upon this proviso.

"These charters," it says, "prohibited the passing of any laws contrary to the laws of England. Hence, it is argued, most conclusively, that when the decision in Somersett's case settled the point that slavery of negroes was contrary to the laws of England, that decision annihilated all supposed legal authority for slavery in the *chartered* colonies."

This is direct, simple, and *apparently* conclusive; but there is a fatal defect in the argument. *Colonial laws establishing slavery in the colonies were not "contrary or repugnant to the laws of England."*

We shall prove this position by a reference to the laws of villenage, to the laws of England recognising and sustaining slavery in the colonies, to the statutes and treaties legalizing the slave trade, and to the Somersett case. The reference, it will be observed, embraces every point of the discussion. In establishing the position, then, we shall demonstrate not only that the colonial charters did not prohibit slavery, but that the slave trade was directly authorized by act of Parliament, and that the decision in the Somersett case applied alone to England. It will be no disadvantage to our readers to understand all these things, and be able to place responsibility where it belongs.

1. Villenage was slavery to all intents and purposes whatsoever. The villein was under the absolute control of his master. He was compelled to work without wages. He was liable to beating, chaining, or any kind of punishment his lord might direct, except maiming or killing. He could not acquire property for his own benefit. He was himself property, as such, saleable and transferable. "If he were a villein, regardant, he passed with the manor, or land, to which he was annexed, but might be sundered, at the pleasure of his lord. If he was a villein in gross, he was an hereditament, or a chattel real, according to the lord's interest; being descendible to the heir where the lord was absolute owner, and transmissible to the executor, where the lord had only a term of years in him."‡

Now, several of the colonial charters were given by Elizabeth and James, but villenage, *as a practice*, was not extinguished till during the reign of the latter, and the *laws* of villenage were not repealed even at the time when Lord Mansfield delivered his famous decision.

How, then, could *slavery* in the *colonies* be said to be *repugnant to the laws of England*, when they *authorized* a condition within *its* borders *essentially the same?*

It is admitted that the laws of villenage became a dead letter from the time of James; but, after the commencement of African slavery, the British Government took measures, from time to time, in support of slavery in the colonies, and in prosecution of the slave trade, as we shall now proceed to show.

2. In 1631, Sir B. Young, Sir K. Digby, and others, were constituted, by Charles I, a company to trade to Africa. It was the second British chartered company for trading with that country—the first British company that traded in slaves.§

In 1641, the trade had become quite important, the cultivation of the sugar cane having given it a great stimulus.

In 1662, Charles II granted a charter to a third African company, of which his brother, the Duke of York, was a member. It undertook to supply the British West Indies with 3,000 slaves per annum.

In 1672, the fourth and last English African company was chartered. It greatly augmented the trade, and supplied the British colonies with slaves. In the following year, there were 9,504 negroes on the island of Jamaica, and 7,760 whites; while in Barbadoes, in 1670, thirty years after the trade fairly began, there were 50,000 whites and 100,000 slaves!

From the year 1698 to 1707, there were landed in the British colonies, partly by the company, partly by private traders, about 25,000 slaves a year.

Up to this time, the trade has been carried on chiefly by companies chartered by the Crown, the right of which to grant such charters, however, was acknowledged by Parliament.

But in 1698, Parliament *expressly recognised the lawfulness* of the traffic, and granted a *special encouragement* to it. An act passed that year, entitled "An act to settle the trade to Africa," regulates the trade of the Royal African Company;‖ directs it to maintain all necessary forts and factories on the coast; designates what persons shall engage in the trade; prescribes duties, modes of entry, oaths, &c., and, in terms, excepts "negroes" from the schedule of "*other* goods and merchandise imported from the African coast into England or her colonies in America."

Then followed the famous, or, rather, infamous, Assiento contract, by which, in 1713, the Spanish Government made over to the English Guinea Company, by a formal royal contract, the privilege of supplying the Spanish colonies with slaves from Africa. But this was not the worst. The contract was deemed of importance enough to be made "*the subject of a stipulation between the Governments* in the preliminaries of the peace of Utrecht; and it was confirmed in an article (the 12th) in the treaty of Utrecht of July, 1713."¶

By this contract, incorporated into a solemn treaty, the English Guinea Company became bound to furnish the Spanish colonies with 144,000 slaves from Africa, in the course of thirty years, the term it was to run.

From this time Parliament assumed, in various ways, the responsibility of the traffic. The company, having been a loser by the contract, petitioned that body for aid in 1729, and from that year till 1749 received appropriations amounting to £80,000! But, becoming more and more embarrassed, it finally surrendered all its privileges into the hands of Parliament, on condition that its debts should be paid.

In the year 1750, an act was passed, entitled "An act for extending and improving the trade to Africa," of which the preamble and first enacting clause will be enough for our purposes.**

"Whereas, the trade to and from Africa is very advantageous to Great Britain, and necessary for the supplying the plantations and colonies thereto belonging with a sufficient number of negroes at reasonable rates; and for that purpose the said trade ought to be free and open to all his Majesty's subjects; therefore, be it enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords, spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that it shall and may be lawful for all his Majesty's subjects to trade and traffic to and from every port or place in Africa between the port of Salee, in South Barbary, and the Cape of Good Hope, when, at such times, and in such manner, and in or with such quantity of goods, wares, or merchandises, as he or they shall think fit, without any restraint whatsoever, save as is hereinafter expressed."

This act constitutes all his Majesty's subjects who then or thereafter should trade to the coast of Africa, a body corporate and politic, under the name of the Company of Merchants Trading to Africa; vests in them the forts and factories of the Royal African Company; prohibits them from trading thither in their *joint* capacity; constitutes a committee of nine persons, to reside in England, to meet regularly in London for the purpose of managing the affairs of the company, three of whom were to be chosen in London, three in Bristol, three in Liverpool.

In 1752, another act was passed, divesting the Royal African Company of their forts, factories, *slaves*, &c., compensating them therefor, and then vesting all these, slaves included, in the new company.††

The trade, thus legalized, continued till 1807, when, on the 25th March, the act of abolition was passed. That act contains a section expressly recognising the legality of the slave trade, even up to the year of its passage. We copy it:‡‡

"VI. *Provided, always*, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be understood to extend, to prohibit or *render unlawful* the dealing or trading in the purchase, sale, barter, or transfer, or the carrying away or receiving, for the purpose of being sold, transferred, used, or dealt with as slaves, or the detaining or confining, for the purpose of being so carried away or removed, of any slaves which, on or before the said first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and seven, shall have been lawfully cleared out from Great Britain, according to the laws now in force for regulating the carrying of slaves from Spain, or to prevent or *render unlawful* the mooring or navigating any such ship or vessel, or to make void any insurance thereon, so as that the slaves to be carried therein shall be finally landed in the West Indies, on or before the first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eight, unless prevented by capture, violence of the wind, by the appearance of an enemy on the coast, or other unavoidable necessity, the proof thereof shall be upon the party charged, anything hereinbefore contained to the contrary notwithstanding."

"*Render unlawful.*" This is a recognition of the existing lawfulness of the acts enumerated. The courts are positively prohibited from construing this act in such a way as to bring their strict lawfulness into question.

We have thus traced the history of the slave trade from the year 1641, through all its stages, to the year 1807, when it was abolished—a period of one hundred and sixty-six years; and have established, beyond all doubt, that it was first authorized by the Crown, then by solemn treaty, then by various acts of Parliament; the last act, that of abolition, recognising its existing lawfulness up to the year 1807, thirty-six years after the decision of the Somersett case.

The inference is decisive: slavery in the colonies could not be repugnant to the laws of England, when those very laws authorized the exportation of slaves to the colonies. It is impossible to avoid or evade this inference.

3. But this position is rendered impregnable by the fact, that the laws of England positively recognised and sustained slavery in the colonies, as we shall now show.

An act of Parliament of 1732, "for His Majesty's Plantations and Colonies in America," holds "lands, slaves, negroes, &c., in the Plantations, liable to sales for debts." Its language is: "The houses, lands, negroes, and other hereditaments and real estates, situated or being within any of the said Plantations," &c., "shall be liable to and chargeable with all just debts, duties, and demands, of what nature and kind soever," &c., "and shall and may be assets for the satisfaction thereof, in like manner as real estates are by the law of England." It proceeds to authorize the *sale* of such "negroes," as of "other property." §§

We see no propriety in slurring over these disgraceful statutes for the sake of sustaining a theory.

This statute was enacted forty years before Lord Mansfield's decision. Let us now refer to another, enacted about fifty years after that decision. So late as the year 1820, we find an act, treating and regulating slaves in the colonies as "property" in all respects. It was passed July 19, 1820, and provides for the registry *in Great Britain* of colonial slaves.‖‖

A registrar of slaves was constituted, to have a seat in the House of Commons. Copies of his registries were to be deposited with his Majesty's Secretaries of State. The act provides that no purchase shall be made or money lent on security of slaves *unless registered;* that no deed, executed for the *conveyance* of slaves, be valid, *unless the names be on the register;* and, finally, it regulates the "*exportation*" or removal of slaves from one of his Majesty's colonies to another.

These two statutes of Parliament demonstrate that slavery, so far from being contrary to the "laws of England," was recognised and sanctioned by them, unless, indeed, it be claimed that the laws of England do not include the statutes of the realm.

And now we ask, if we have not established, beyond all doubt, that slavery in the colonies of Great Britain was not repugnant to the laws of England, and that the slave trade was legalized, what kind of evidence does the *Emancipator* demand?

Next week we shall prove that the decision in the Somersett case did not touch the slave relation as existing in the colonies.

Meantime, let us remark, that all we have proved and shall prove cannot change the intrinsic character of slavery, confer upon it any moral sanction, reconcile it to the eternal principles of justice, palliate its enormity, or justify its practice. Human law cannot make right, wrong, or wrong, right. Its essays to do so only prove the blindness or wickedness of the lawgiver.

* Hazard's State Papers, vol. I, p. 251.
† Smith's History of Virginia.
‡ Howell's State Trials, London, 1771–1777, pp. 35, 36.
§ Bandinel on the Slave Trade. London.
‖ 3d William, 9th and 10th, c. 26.
¶ Assiento contract, March 13, 1713, preserved in English State Papers.
** 23d George II, c. 31.
†† 25th George II, e. 40.
‡‡ 47th George III, c. 36.
§§ 5th George II, c. 7.
‖‖ 59th George III, c. 120.

BALTIMORE SATURDAY VISITER.

Dr. J. E. Snodgrass, the editor and proprietor of the Baltimore Saturday Visiter, in his late paper, makes the following announcement:

To the Patrons of the Visiter.

It has become my duty to announce that the present is the final issue of the Saturday Visiter, its list having been united with that of the National Era. By this arrangement, the necessity of which it is needless to dwell upon, the undersigned becomes connected with the new enterprise in a way which, while not rendering him at all pecuniarily responsible, will enable him to continue intercourse with such patrons of the Visiter as may be pleased to approve the arrangement—and these, he hopes, will include all of his present readers.

The Era will be served to such country patrons of the Visiter, as have paid in advance, to the end of the terms for which they have paid, respectively, without additional charge, although the advance price of the Era is one-fourth more than that of the Visiter, as indeed it of right should be, in view of its large dimensions and greater quantity of reading matter. After the expiration of said terms of subscription, those wishing to continue the Era will be expected to signify that wish by remitting the advance price of the paper, $2 per annum, for single subscribers, and, by special arrangement, $1.50 each for clubs of ten or more, sent to the same post office. The Baltimore city list of the Visiter will be served with the Era, by carriers, at two dollars a year in advance; but, if payment be delayed at all, the charges and regulations will be precisely the same as heretofore for the Visiter.

Subscribers to the Visiter, who may have also subscribed for the National Era, will, if they request it, receive two copies of the Era to the time for which they have paid for the Visiter, instead of being credited for additional time on the Era.

The very large circulation of the Era, particularly westward, with its circulation among the Baltimore subscribers of the Visiter, will give it advantages as an advertising medium, worthy the attention of business men; and we commend it, accordingly, to such as have favored the Visiter with that kind of patronage.

All debts due on discontinued or current subscriptions, or for advertising, will be collected by the undersigned; and those in arrears (especially such as are not now in receipt of the Visiter) will perceive the necessity of immediately paying up their dues, without waiting to be called on, as that would involve an expense for collections, not allowable on such small and widely scattered sums.

Subscriptions to the Era will be received at the old office of the Visiter; and here single copies of the Era may always be had for the publisher's retail price, 6¼ cents—as also the various literary papers heretofore kept for sale, and the usual assortment of rare and cheap books, including a full supply of Phrenological works, to which particular attention will continue to be given, and to which I invite the attention of the reading and thinking public.

Having also retained my printing materials, the latter are now in the market, including a considerable quantity of plain and fancy job type. If not promptly sold to advantage, I may conclude to exchange a part of these for a "hand press." Letters of inquiry, post paid, will be answered with further particulars. My brethren in exchange, with whom I part so reluctantly, will confer a favor by copying at least this clause of my present announcement, thus adding to the many obligations under which their kindness has already placed me. J. E. Snodgrass.

The subscribers of that paper will receive the *Era*, commencing with this number. We should have been better pleased, had Dr. Snodgrass found it expedient to continue himself the publication of his paper. We have enjoyed the pleasure of an exchange with him for some three years, and have admired the candor with which he has uttered unpopular truths, and the earnestness with which he has maintained them. The *Visiter* has wrought a good work in Maryland and other slave States. We regarded it as a pioneer anti-slavery journal in the South, and were anxious that it should maintain a distinct existence, under the control of one who has been so efficient an advocate of reform. His old friends, however, will be as pleased to learn as we are to announce, that they are to have the privilege of reading a letter from him weekly in the *Era*.

"Nearly five and a half years ago," says the Doctor, "I assumed the post which I am now about to vacate. Then my mind had never been penetrated or agitated by any of the reformatory truths of the age, save the everywhere prevailing one of Temperance. Having comprehended *its* claims, I acknowledged them in an open advocacy, and put them to practice in accordance with a rule which I had early adopted for the rule of my life. When, for example, the truths of the Anti-Capital Punishment movement reached my convictions, I obeyed their behests. So of the truths of that greatest of all the reforms in our day, opposition to Human Slavery—the moment I apprehended them, I resolved to adopt them. It was a perilous conception for one living in the midst of Slave Institutions, knowing nothing different from infancy. To raise my voice was, seemingly, like shouting in a wilderness, and hearing only the reverberating echoes of one's own solitary and unanswered utterance! But, however solitary my first utterances, I soon found that I was not entirely alone, after all. There were others—not a few of them, too—who were only waiting for some one voice to break the gloomy silence. This once broken, and hundreds of voices could be heard all around me. To these it has been my pleasure to unburden the sentiments of my soul; and it is a consoling circumstance of the arrangement which has called forth these reflections, that it will continue to be my privilege to address most of them through the new channel thus opened."

Dr. Snodgrass is a Virginian, the son of a Virginia slaveholder, and can speak with feeling, as an anti-slavery man.

PRESIDENTIAL.

The Liberty papers are beginning to consider the propriety of a Convention to nominate Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates.

The *Emancipator* is in favor of holding it in the fall, suggests various places, and recommends Mr. Fessenden, of Maine.

The *Liberty Press*, of Utica, New York, takes no exception to Mr. Fessenden, but does not see the force of the objection to Mr. Smith, or Judge Jay, stated by the *Emancipator*. "We are not, however," it says, "for an *early* nomination, and cannot but hope the National Convention will be deferred to some time in 1848."

The *Washington (Pa.) Patriot* suggests the third week in October, as a suitable time. The Patriot, in reply to the intimation of the *Emancipator*, that Mr. Fessenden is better known than Dr. Lemoyne, says:

"We are not certain that such is the fact. In the Eastern States it is doubtless true that the name of Fessenden is more familiar than that of Lemoyne; but it is just the reverse in the West; out here, the people are beginning to learn that there *is* such a man as Samuel Fessenden. We do not say this to detract from the merits of that worthy man, but to show that the objection of the Emancipator is as potent against him as against our friend, Dr. Lemoyne."

For ourselves, we concur with the Liberty Press, in hoping that the Convention may not be held till some time in the year 1848. We would suggest about the first week in May. No reason, we believe, has been assigned why it should be held sooner. At this period it may be said with peculiar emphasis, that we know not what a day or an hour may bring forth. It is better, we think, to delay our nomination to the last moment, consistent with the integrity of the organization. Political movements are as yet indeterminate. To-day, in view of certain circumstances, it may seem expedient to have a ticket, which a year hence might be substituted by a better one. Before next May, a pretty correct opinion can be formed of the character of the tickets to be presented for the suffrages of the people, and of the final policy of the old parties—and then we can shape our nominations accordingly. Till then, it seems to us wise to let our enterprise move along upon its own merits, without the embarrassment of any nomination. One year may throw much light upon the task of selecting our candidates.

But one reason, it is supposed, can be urged in favor of an early nomination; and that is, the policy of committing the party so that its members may not be drawn off by other parties—a reason certainly not very complimentary to Liberty men. We would prefer Gideon's policy when he went out to attack the Midianites. Up to the very hour of the battle, he gave to all who wished, the privilege of retiring from the danger. We are unwilling to manifest too great eagerness to enter the political arena; and we are quite willing to trust the common sense and honesty of the rank and file of Liberty men, to decide when the moment of action shall come. We have no idea that they will fall from grace, because not tied up by an early nomination. If circumstances, next spring, shall call as loudly for an independent nomination, as they have hitherto done, and as we suppose they will do again, our friends will doubtless be as faithful to their convictions as they would be were they to bind themselves a year in advance.

We do hope this Presidential question may lie over till next May. As to the place, Pittsburgh, or Cleveland would, we think, be preferable to any other named.

Washington has been mentioned as a suitable place; but the expediency of holding such a convention here is very questionable. It is far removed from the Liberty men of the West; the expenses of the journey hither, and of the entertainment here, would be very great, especially the latter; the effects of the meeting, so far as this place is concerned, would be problematical; even the other parties do not deem it a suitable place for their Nominating Conventions. As it is desirable to have a representation of Liberty men from all parts of the country, to equalize the burdens of travelling as much as possible, and not put them to any inordinate expenses for entertainment, it is best to have the meeting in a place, central, easily accessible, affording ample accommodations, and plenty of sympathy.

"BRILLIANT VICTORIES"—GROSS INCONSISTENCY.

Some time ago, the British soldiery gained a "brilliant victory," to use a popular phrase, over the natives of India, cutting to pieces twenty thousand men, sending to the bar of Eternal Justice twenty thousand souls, with all their sins upon them. The holy bishops in England, who believe in the eternal damnation of him who dies, unrepentant, offered up thanks to God for this triumph of British arms! For what? For the bravery of the British soldiery in precipitating prematurely twenty thousand souls into perdition! Horrible! The humanity of the American people was shocked. The religious sentiment of the American press was provoked to the most scathing comment upon the diabolical inconsistency.

But the scene changes. The younger branch of the Anglo-Saxon family is on fire with the lust of war. Seven hundred of their countrymen fall at the pass of Buena Vista. Two thousand Mexicans bite the dust, in sudden death, or groan away their lives in agonizing torments. Other thousands, starving, famished, exhausted, save themselves by flight. They are absolutely starving. The victorious American sends out his light troops to harass them, to put as many bullets through the skeleton fugitives as he can. The field of battle is strewn with the dead, three deep. Here are trunks without limbs; there, heads without bodies. The ground is mired with blood, and the horses' feet slip as they tread upon mangled flesh, gore, and brains.

Next, a city full of women and children, peaceful homes, and loving hearts, is attacked. A storm of death beats upon it. Walls are knocked down, streets torn up, houses and furniture scattered, as if by lightning, and the gutters run blood. One thousand souls are sent to their last account, the greater number, innocent women and children, who would not forsake their fathers and husbands.

And now what do we hear? Shouts of triumph from the people who were horror-stricken at oriental slaughter by British arms! The press can think of nothing but "*brilliant*" victories. Corporations pass resolutions full of rejoicing, forgetful of the hearths that have been made desolate, the hearts that have been broken, the sinful souls that have been sent into eternity. Cities are illuminated, the whole country vibrates with joy, and—on Sunday its thronging millions go to church, to hear sermons on the commandment, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself!" And this is Christian civilization! No. It is a civilization without Christ—as brutal and bloody as if archangels had not sung, eighteen centuries ago, "Peace on earth, and good will to man!"

Now and then the press, with much solemnity and pathos, announces the consummation of the penalty of the law upon some wretched murderer. It almost shrinks from describing the circumstances of his execution; the hymn, the prayer, the whispered consolation, the ghastly face, the last look at the blue heavens, the cap drawn over the eyes, the rope, the drop, the sudden plunge, the last convulsion! People read the account, and shudder. No bonfire is kindled in honor of the deed. It is lamented as one justified alone by stern necessity.

Now, even on the extravagant supposition that this war against Mexico is a *just* one, how should we regard the wholesale execution inflicted by our armies? With the same feelings, only infinitely deepened, with which we read accounts of the hanging of a criminal. Rejoicing upon such occasions is diabolical.

☞ The reader will see, on the first page, an account, copied from the papers, of another victory at Santa Fe. It is headed "*Brilliant Victory*," &c. Do not hold us accountable for this. We can recognise nothing as "*brilliant*" in the mastery of brute force by greater brute force.

GEN. TAYLOR FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

The *Philadelphia Inquirer*, a very cautious Whig paper, has run up the Taylor flag.

The Whigs in the Iowa Legislature have nominated him for the Presidency.

A convention, without distinction of party, at Maysville, Kentucky, has done the same.

A paper, called the True Democrat, has been started in Trenton, New Jersey, and another styled the National Whig, has appeared within a few days in Washington, both Taylor papers.

The Albany Mayoralty Convention has adopted resolutions eulogizing him as a second Washington, and recommending his nomination to their Whig brethren throughout the State.

The *New York Tribune* seems disposed to give him a lift.

The *Courier and Enquirer* of New York (see first page) is out in his support, in an article as profligate as it is insulting to the people of the free States.

And, as we have intimated on our first page, Mr. Calhoun is, if report be true, about to give him his aid. The Washington correspondent of the *Baltimore Sun*, on the 10th, writes as follows:

"There is a letter in the city from South Carolina, which states that Mr. Calhoun has written a letter to his friends on the subject of his being a candidate for the next Presidency; that, in this letter, he states that, under no circumstances, will he consent to be a candidate for that office; and further, that he requests and urges his friends to unite on Major General Zachary Taylor as their candidate for the Presidency!"

Should the nomination be generally sustained by the Whig party, it will lose much of its anti-slavery support.

THE NEXT CONGRESS.

We have quoted on our first page the calculations of the Washington Union, according to which, a Democratic majority in the next Congress is predicted. We subjoin the calculations of the New York Tribune, so that both sides may be presented:

THE NEXT CONGRESS.

The members elect to the next Congress, so far, are politically divided as follows:

States.	Whigs.	Dem.	States.	Whigs.	Dem.
Maine	1	1	Ohio	11	8
New Hampshire	0	2	Michigan	0	3
Massachusetts	10	0	Illinois	1	6
Rhode Island	1	0	South Carolina	0	7
Connecticut	4	0	Georgia	4	4
Vermont	3	1	Florida	1	0
New York	23	10	Missouri	0	5
New Jersey	4	1	Arkansas	0	1
Pennsylvania	17	7	Texas	0	2
Delaware	1	0			
			Total, so far	81	58

Doubtful.—New York 1; Ohio 1—Total 2.

Members yet to be chosen. Probable result:

States.	Whigs.	Dem.	States.	Whigs.	Dem.
Maine	1	3	Louisiana	1	3
New Hampshire	1	1	Kentucky	7	3
Rhode Island	1	0	Tennessee	5	6
Maryland	4	2	Indiana	3	7
Virginia	3	12	Iowa	1	1
North Carolina	6	3	Wisconsin	0	2
Alabama	1	6	Ohio	0	1
Mississippi	1	3			
			Total	35	53
Add those already chosen				81	58
And the next House will probably stand				116	111

PRIVATE CLAIMANT.

In the highly dramatic sketch of a "Private Claimant," published on our fourth page, there are two or three expressions entirely in character with the personage represented, but which, nevertheless, for the sake of avoiding the appearance of evil, were corrected in proof. Unfortunately, the printer overlooked them.

POLITICAL MOVEMENTS.

We would call the attention of the reader to the political movements, of which we present a view on the first page of the *Era*.

BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA.

One of the Indiana regiments gave way at the battle of Buena Vista, but subsequently rallied. It was stationed on the extreme left, and was exposed to a most formidable attack from Santa Anna's forces, which had been concentrated for the purpose of turning its flank.

The Arkansas cavalry fled, and their officers were unable to rally them again.

The following table, extracted from the *Charleston Mercury*, shows the loss of each regiment. The Illinois volunteers suffered most severely.

Troops.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
First regiment dragoons	0	7	0
Second regiment dragoons	0	3	0
Third artillery	1	19	2
Fourth artillery	5	14	0
Mississippi rifles	40	56	2
First reg. Illinois vol'rs	29	25	0
Second reg. Illinois vol'rs	47	74	3
Texas volunteers	14	2	7
Second Indiana vol'rs	33	37	4
Third Indiana vol'rs	9	56	0
Kentucky cavalry	29	32	0
Kentucky infantry	42	57	1
Arkansas cavalry	17	32	4
	266	414	23

CONNECTICUT ELECTION.

The election in Connecticut has resulted in the triumph of the Whigs. The vote stands—

1847.			1846.		
Bissell.	Whittlesey.	Liberty.	Bissell.	Whittlesey.	Liberty.
28,435	25,621	1,586	27,670	27,044	2,225

Norfolk, which gave last year for Bissell 152, Toucey 109, Liberty 20, is still to come in. The Liberty vote, it seems, has fallen off about six hundred—more than one-fourth.

The Whigs, according to the Tribune, have a majority in the Senate of 5, in the House of 35.

RHODE ISLAND.

The "Law and Order" party have carried this State. The Liberty vote for Governor is 246; scattering 509. The Law and Order candidate for Governor has 1,163 majority over all others.

Cranston (Whig) has been elected to Congress from the Eastern District. In the Western District, the Law and Order candidate has the largest number of votes, but there is no election.

Senators elected—20 Law and Order, 6 Dorrite, 3 to come in; Representatives—Law and Order 42, Dorrite 14.

Poetry.—The *Louisville Journal* publishes a bit of poetry, "The Southern Maid," from "the editor of a distinguished Eastern literary periodical," which, it says, contains "much of the spirit of Barry Cornwall." We wonder if Cornwall ever wrote four such lines as the following, from said poem:

"She dwelt, a dove-like, delicate *thing*,
Among low-lying river *land*,
Her cheeks were white as sea bird's wing,
And thin her blue-veined hand."

Somebody dropped a needle the other day, and, while hunting for it industriously, a little urchin remarked, "I guess it's *among* cousin William's *cloak*."

YORKTOWN.

Dr. Thacher, surgeon in Scammel's regiment, in his description of the siege of Yorktown, says: "The labor on the Virginia plantations is performed altogether by a species of the human race cruelly wrested from their native country, and doomed to perpetual bondage, while their masters are manfully contending for freedom and the natural rights of man. Such is the inconsistency of human nature." Eighteen hundred slaves were found at Yorktown, after its surrender, and restored to their masters. Well was it said by Dr. Barnes, in his late work on slavery: "No slave was any nearer his freedom after the surrender of Yorktown, than when Patrick Henry first taught the notes of liberty to echo among the hills and vales of Virginia."

From Yorktown's ruins, ranked and still,
Two lines stretch far o'er vale and hill:
Who curbs his steed at head of one?
Hark! the low murmur: Washington!
Who bends his keen, approving glance
Where down the gorgeous line of France
Shine knightly star and plume of snow?
Thou too art victor, Rochambeau!

The earth which bears this calm array
Shook with the war charge yesterday,
Ploughed deep with hurrying hoof and wheel,
Shot-sown and bladed thick with steel;
October's clear and noonday sun
Paled in the breath-smoke of the gun,
And down night's double blackness fell,
Like a dropped star, the blazing shell.

Now all is hushed: the gleaming lines
Stand moveless as the neighboring pines;
While through them, sullen, grim, and slow,
The conquered hosts of England go:
O'Hara's brow belies his dress,
Gay Tarlton's troop ride bannerless:
Shout, from thy fired and wasted homes,
Thy scourge, Virginia, captive comes!

Nor those alone: with one glad voice
Let all thy sister States rejoice;
Let Freedom, in whatever clime
She waits with sleepless eye her time,
Shouting from cave and mountain wood,
Make glad her desert solitude,
While they who hunt her quail with fear:
The New World's chain lies broken here!

But who are they who, cowering, wait
Within the shattered fortress-gate?
Dark tillers of Virginia's soil,
Classed with the battle's common spoil,
With household stuffs, and fowl, and swine,
With Indian weed, and planters' wine,
With stolen beeves, and foraged corn—
Are they not men, Virginian born?

Oh! veil your faces, young and brave!
Sleep, Scammel, in thy soldier grave!
Sons of the North-land, ye who set
Stout hearts against the bayonet,
And pressed with steady footfall near
The moated battery's blazing tier,
Turn your scarr'd faces from the sight,
Let shame do homage to the right!

Lo! threescore years have passed; and where
The Gallic timbrel stirred the air,
With Northern drum-roll, and the clear,
Wild horn-blow of the mountaineer,
While Britain grounded on that plain
The arms she might not lift again,
As abject as in that old day
The Slave still toils his life away.

Oh! fields still green and fresh in story,
Old days of pride, old names of glory,
Old marvels of the tongue and pen,
Old thoughts which stirred the hearts of men,
Ye spared the wrong; and over all
Behold the avenging shadow fall!
Your world-wide honor stained with shame—
Your Freedom's self a hollow name!

Where's now the flag of that old war?
Where flows its stripe? Where burns its star?
Bear witness, Palo Alto's day,
Dark Vale of Palms, red Monterey,
Where Mexic Freedom, young and weak,
Fleshes the Northern eagle's beak:
Symbol of terror and despair,
Of chains and slaves, go seek it there!

Laugh, Prussia, midst thy iron ranks!
Laugh, Russia, from thy Neva's banks!
Brave sport to see the fledgling born
Of Freedom by its parent torn!
Safe now your Speilburg's dungeon cell,
Safe drear Siberia's frozen hell:
With Slavery's flag o'er both unrolled,
What of the New World fears the old?

J. G. W.

QUAKER SLAVEHOLDING, AND HOW IT WAS ABOLISHED.

[CONTINUED.]

In the mean time, another advocate of the cause of the slave appeared in the person of Anthony Benezet, of Philadelphia. In the year 1754, an excellent epistle to its members was issued by the Yearly Meeting, which is understood to have been written by this generous and self-denying philanthropist. It was a tender and touching appeal to the hearts and consciences of those who held or purchased slaves. Without directly enjoining the duty of emancipation, it was still greatly in advance of all previous action of any religious body on the subject. An extract or two will show its character: "To live in ease and plenty by the toil of those whom violence and cruelty have put in our power, is neither consistent with Christianity nor common justice, and, we have good reason to believe, draws down the displeasure of Heaven; it being a melancholy but true reflection, that where slave-keeping prevails, pure religion and sobriety decline; as it evidently tends to harden the heart, and render the soul less susceptible of that holy spirit of love, meekness, and charity, which is the peculiar character of a true Christian." "The characteristic and badge of a true Christian are love and good works. Our Saviour's whole life, on earth, was one continued exercise of them. 'Love one another,' says he, 'as I have loved you.' How can we be said to love our brethren, who bring, or, for selfish ends, keep them in bondage? Do we act consistent with this noble principle, who lay such heavy burdens on our fellow-creatures? Do we consider that they are called, and sincerely desire that they may become heirs with us in glory; and rejoice in the liberty of the sons of God, whilst we are withholding from them the common liberties of mankind? Or can the Spirit of God, by which we have always professed to be led, be the author of those oppressive and unrighteous measures? Do we not thereby manifest that temporal interest hath more influence on our conduct herein, than the dictates of that merciful, holy, and unerring Guide?"

Three years after, in 1757, the Yearly Meeting of Virginia took its first action on the subject of slavery. The following query was introduced into the discipline: "Are Friends clear of buying or importing negroes to trade upon; and do they use those well which they are possessed of by inheritance or otherwise, endeavoring to train them up in the principles of the Christian religion?"

The annual assemblage of the Yearly Meeting at Philadelphia, in 1758, was marked by a deep and general interest in the question of slavery. The excellent John Woolman, bowed down with the weight of his concern for the poor slaves and for the well-being of the society, sat silent during the whole meeting, while other matters were under discussion. "My mind," he says, "was frequently clothed with inward prayer; and I could say with David, that 'tears were my meat and drink, day and night.' The case of slave-keeping lay heavy upon me; nor did I find any engagement to speak directly to any other matter before the meeting." When the important subject came up for consideration, many faithful Friends spoke with weight and earnestness. No one openly justified slavery as a system; although some expressed a concern lest the meeting should go into measures calculated to cause uneasiness to many members of the society. It was also urged that Friends should wait patiently, until the Lord in his own time should open a way for the deliverance of the slave. This was replied to by John Woolman. "My mind," he said, "is led to consider the purity of the Divine Being, and the justice of His judgments; and herein my soul is covered with awfulness. I cannot forbear to hint of some cases where people have not been treated with the purity of justice, and the event has been most lamentable. Many slaves on this continent are oppressed, and their cries have entered into the ears of the Most High. Such are the purity and certainty of His judgments, that He cannot be partial in our favor. In infinite love and goodness, He hath opened our understandings from one time to another, concerning our duty towards this people; and it is not a time for delay. Should we now be sensible of what He requires of us, and through a respect to the private interest of some persons, or through a regard to some friendships which do not stand upon an immutable foundation, neglect to do our duty in firmness and constancy, still waiting for some extraordinary means to bring about their deliverance, God may by terrible things in righteousness answer us in this matter."

This solemn and weighty appeal was responded to by many in the assembly, in a spirit of sympathy and unity. Some of the slaveholding members expressed their willingness that a strict rule of discipline should be adopted against *dealing* in slaves for the future. To this it was answered, that the root of the evil would never be reached effectually, until a searching inquiry was made into the circumstances and motives of such as *held* slaves. At length, the truth, in a great measure, triumphed over all opposition; and, without any public dissent, the meeting agreed that the injunction of our Lord and Saviour to do to others as we would that others should do to us, should induce Friends who hold slaves "to set them at liberty, making a Christian provision for them;" and four Friends, John Woolman, John Scarborough, Daniel Stanton, and John Sykes, were approved of as suitable persons to visit and treat with such as kept slaves, within the limits of the meeting.

This painful and difficult duty was faithfully performed. In that meekness and humility of spirit which has nothing in common with that "fear of man which bringeth a snare," the self-denying followers of their Divine Lord and Master "went about doing good." In the city of Philadelphia, and among the wealthy planters of the country, they found occasion often to exercise a great degree of patience, and to keep a watchful guard over their feelings. An extract or two from the journal of John Woolman, at this period, will serve to show both the nature of the service in which he was engaged, and the frame of mind in which he accomplished it.

"In the beginning of the 12th month, I joined in company with my friends John Sykes and Daniel Stanton, in visiting such as had slaves. Some, whose hearts were rightly exercised about them, appeared to be glad of our visit, but in some places our way was more difficult. I often saw the necessity of keeping down to that root from whence our concern proceeded, and have cause in reverent thankfulness humbly to bow down before the Lord who was near to me, and preserved my mind in calmness under some sharp conflicts; and begat a spirit of sympathy and tenderness in me, towards some who were grievously entangled by the spirit of this world."

"1st mo., 1759.—Having forced my mind down to visit some of the more active members of society at Philadelphia who had slaves, I met my friend John Churchman there by agreement; and we continued about a week in the city. We visited some that were sick, and some widows and their families; and the other part of the time was mostly employed in visiting such as had slaves. It was a time of deep exercise; but looking often to the Lord for assistance, He in unspeakable kindness favored us with the influence of that spirit which crucifies to the greatness and splendor of this world, and enabled us to go through some heavy labors, in which we found peace."

These labors were attended with the blessing of the God of the poor and oppressed. Dealing in slaves was almost entirely abandoned, and many who held slaves set them at liberty. But many members still continuing to hold slaves, a more emphatic testimony against the practice was issued by the Yearly Meeting in 1774; and two years after, the subordinate meetings were directed to *deny the right of membership to such as persisted in holding their fellow-men as property*.

A concern was now felt for the temporal and religious welfare of the emancipated slaves, and, in 1779, the Yearly Meeting came to the conclusion that some reparation was due from the masters to their former slaves, for services rendered while in the condition of slavery. The following is an extract from an epistle on this subject:

"We are united in judgment, that the state of the oppressed people who have been held by any of us, or our predecessors, in captivity and slavery, calls for a deep inquiry and close examination, how far we are clear of withholding from them what under such an exercise may open to view as their just right, and, therefore, we earnestly and affectionately entreat our brethren in religious profession to bring this matter home, and that all who have let the oppressed go free may attend to the further openings of duty.

"A tender Christian sympathy appears to be awakened in the minds of many who are not in religious profession with us, who have seriously considered the oppressions and disadvantages under which those people have long labored; and whether a pious care extended to their offspring is not justly due from us to them, is a consideration worthy our serious and deep attention."

Committees to aid and advise the colored people were accordingly appointed in the various monthly meetings. Many former owners of slaves faithfully paid the latter for their services, submitting to the award and judgment of arbitrators, as to what justice required at their hands. So deeply had the sense of the wrong of slavery sunk into the hearts of Friends!

John Woolman, in his journal for 1769, states, that having some years before, as one of the executors of a will, disposed of the services of a negro boy belonging to the estate until he should reach the age of thirty years, he became uneasy in respect to the transaction, and, although he had himself derived no pecuniary benefit from it, and had simply acted as the agent of the heirs of the estate to which the boy belonged, he executed a bond, binding himself to pay the master of the young man for four years and a half of his unexpired term of service.

We shall, in our next and concluding number, give an account of the progress and consummation of emancipation in the Yearly Meetings of Virginia, New York, and New England.

J. G. W.

REVIEW.

The Constitutional History of England, from the accession of Henry VII to the death of George II. By Henry Hallam. New York: Harper & Brothers, publishers. For sale by F. Taylor, Penn. Avenue, Washington.

The fact that this work has gone through five editions in London attests its value. The last edition appears with many alterations and additions by the author. In his well-known work on "Europe in the Middle Ages," Mr. Hallam treated of the origin of the English Constitution, and traced its progress down to the extinction of the house of Plantagenet. The volume before us resumes the history where he then closed it, and continues it till the accession of George III. The reason avowed for terminating it then is, an unwillingness to excite the prejudices of modern politics, especially those connected with personal character. This may be a sufficient reason for keeping distinct the portion of constitutional history on which he has treated, but it is none at all why the progress or changes of the British Constitution since then might not constitute the subject of a separate history. Prejudice may be offended in England, but Mr. Hallam seems to forget that there is an England in America which has no party feelings to be offended by such a work.

Every student, every well-informed person, who would clearly understand the origin of our own institutions, will be anxious to read this history of the Constitution of England. Mr. Hallam is impartial, accurate, and philosophical, and though, at times, he permits his judgment to be modified too much by reasons of state, yet, on the whole, he maintains a remarkable fidelity to truth and justice. As an example of lax judgment, we would refer to his remarks on the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots. This unfortunate sovereign was inveigled into Elizabeth's power, and imprisoned in England, in violation, as Hallam admits, "of all natural, public, and municipal law." Under such circumstances, she was bound to obey no law of England. She owed no allegiance to an authority which had brought her by force or fraud within its jurisdiction, and detained her against her consent. She had a right to seek her deliverance, even by the death of Queen Elizabeth, if that were necessary, (on the supposition that it is ever lawful to take human life.) Hallam, however, in his apology for her murder by the English sovereign, remarks as follows:

"Strangers voluntarily resident within a State owe a temporary allegiance to its sovereign, and are amenable to the jurisdiction of its tribunals; and this principle, which is perfectly conformable to natural law, has been extended by positive usage even to those who are detained in it by force."

Such "usage" violates every idea of justice, and

cannot deprive the person thus detained of the right to use all necessary means for his deliverance. It would be a remarkable thing, indeed, were an act of injustice, consummated, to deprive the victim of the right of redress. I have no right to lay violent hands upon you, and reduce you to vassalage, but, having done so, you are bound to submit to my will in all things! This is the ground, substantially, on which this excellent historian would apologize for the atrocious act of Queen Elizabeth! But, as we remarked, this is a mere exception to the general course of his reasonings. In the main, he judges righteous judgment.

The work is very beautifully printed by Harper, in one large octavo.

Law Reporter. April, 1847. Boston: Published by Bradbury & Guild. Edited by Peleg W. Chandler.

This highly respectable periodical has reached its tenth volume, and has, it is said, a circulation greater than that of any similar journal in the United States. It notices, in terms highly flattering, the able argument of S. P. Chase, in the Van Zandt case. It remarks:

"The cause which drew forth this masterly argument has been already decided adversely to all its closely serried array of points. *Victrix causa Diis placuit.* But this conquered effort in behalf of freedom has produced an impression on our mind which it will be difficult for even the judgment of the Court to banish."

By this time, we presume, the editor has seen the judgment of the Court, and, we doubt not, has been surprised at its singular weakness. The editor says he has been "much struck by the ingenuity and fairness" with which Mr. Chase discusses "the mere technical questions," but his attention has been especially arrested by the consideration of the inquiries—*first*, whether the act of Congress of 1793, for the surrender of fugitives from service, was repugnant to the ordinance of 1787; and, *secondly*, whether it was repugnant to the Constitution of the United States. "The first of these points," he remarks, "was novel to us. Under Mr. Chase's hands, it assumes an importance not to be trifled with." And in regard to the unconstitutionality of the law, he says:

"Mr. Chase's argument contains much on this head which will be of interest *out of Court;* and we venture to predict that, notwithstanding the judgment of the Court, his points will seriously influence the public mind, and perhaps the politics of the country."

There is one statement made by the *Law Reporter*, in connection with this case, of special interest. Speaking of the decision of the Court, (Prigg *vs.* Pennsylvania,) he says:

"Untoward as this case seems to be in many respects, it establishes distinctly and unequivocally the *locality* of slavery and the *universality* of freedom, except where it is expressly restrained by the Constitution of the United States and by the municipal laws of different States. And in this view, this case may be regarded with satisfaction. It was so regarded, on this account, by Mr. Justice Story, who said to the writer, not long after, 'It was a triumph of freedom.'"

Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine. New York: Leonard Scott & Co. For sale by W. Adam, Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C.

This is a capital number, full of entertainment and instruction. It contains a poem "To the Stethoscope," singularly beautiful and powerful.

Pictorial History of England. New York: Harper & Brothers.

This is a most valuable history, of which we took some notice when the first part was issued. It appears in numbers, and the whole work will be completed in forty numbers, twenty of which have already been issued, at 25 cents per number. It is handsomely printed on fine paper, and embellished with innumerable engravings, descriptive and illustrative.

Harper's Illuminated and Pictorial Shakespeare. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale by Franck Taylor, Pennsylvania avenue, Washington.

This, without doubt, is one of the most magnificent works ever issued from an American press. It contains the plays of Shakspeare, with his life, and is edited by Gulian C. Verplanck, LL. D., who has embodied in the work a rare collection of critical introductory notes, &c., original and selected. The text of this edition, he says, "has been very carefully, and, it is hoped, accurately printed, taking for the copy the late edition of J. P. Collier, first minutely read by myself, with such alterations of words, of punctuation, and of rhythmical regulation, as commended themselves to my judgment, as being preferable to the readings given by Mr. Collier."

The typography and general mechanical execution of the work cannot be excelled. It is illustrated with hundreds of wood cuts, soft, clear, and beautiful, with an exquisite finish, which does honor to the artist, R. W. Hewet.

It has been well said, that of Shakspeare, whom we seem to know better than any known writer, we scarcely know any thing. Milton, we know, by the records of his life; Shakspeare is scarcely known at all, save through his works. His personal appearance is thus summed up by Aubrey, who is the only authority on this point. "He was a handsome, well shaped man, and of a ready and pleasant and smooth wit."

All accounts concur in representing him as a very pleasant companion. Fuller compares Ben Jonson and Shakspeare to a Spanish great galleon and an English man-of-war. "Master Jonson, like the former, was built far higher in learning; solid, but slow in his performances: Shakspeare, with the English man-of-war, lesser in bulk, but lighter in sailing, could turn with all tides, tack about, and take advantage of all winds, by the quickness of his wit and invention."

Connected with Ben Jonson's solidity and slowness, says the author of the Life before us, is a witticism between him and Shakspeare:

"Mr. Ben Jonson and Mr. Wm. Shakspeare being merrie at a tavern, Mr. Jonson begins this for his epitaph:

"Here lies Ben Jonson,
Who was once one."

He gives it to Shakspeare to make up, who presently writ:

"That while he liv'd, was a *slow* thing,
"And now, being dead, is *no*-thing."

Shells from the Strand, by Harriet Farley. Boston 1847. Jos. Monroe & Co.

This is a collection of essays, tales, and sketches, originally published in the factory girls' literary magazine, the "Lowell Offering." The sketches of home and factory life are generally drawn with discrimination and accuracy, and, apart from their merit as agreeable reading, have their value as pictures of some of the modern phases of New England society. They constitute the most pleasing as well as original portion of the book, although there are other pieces evincing a higher mental culture and deeper feeling. "The Man out of the Moon" is an exquisite fantasy, worthy of the circulation which has been given it in half the newspapers of the country. "The Window Darkened" indicates, on the part of the author, the possession of that rare power of making the commonplaces of daily life suggestive of an impressive morality and the consolations of Hope and Faith.
W.

THE FRENCH CATHOLICS AND SLAVERY.

The Catholics in France seem to occupy a position in relation to slavery very different from that occupied by their brethren in this country. We notice that a petition has been laid before the Chamber of Peers, by Count Montalembert, for the total and immediate abolition of slavery in the French colonies, signed by six hundred and forty-eight members of the Catholic clergy. When the anti-slavery movement shall have reached a certain point in these States, we shall have plenty, both of Catholic and Protestant clergymen, and all sorts of "leading influences," co-operating with great zeal in what will then be a popular cause.

For the National Era.

THE VOICE OF TRUTH.

All history, sacred and profane, demonstrates one important truth to mankind: That it is a determined and an unchangeable law of Nature's God, that he, in the exercise of his own rightful prerogative, though "slow to wrath," will finally execute vengeance on nations for national aggressions and wickedness. When will my country learn that God is just?
G. C.

DOMESTIC CORRESPONDENCE.

New York, *April* 12, 1847.

POPULAR AMUSEMENTS IN NEW YORK.

The popular amusements of our great cities present a subject of the most profound interest. I do not believe that our philosophers and reformers have by any means given this subject that attention, either in sort or degree, which it merits. It is very true that the drama has had its intelligent and enthusiastic apostles; and it cannot be denied that, on the other hand, the theatre—from the days when the *élite* of the imperial city rushed to her Coliseum, and

"The buzz of eager nations ran,
In murmur'd pity or loud roar'd applause,
As man was slaughtered by his fellow-man"—

down to last week, when a great Thespian athlete murdered Shakspeare at the Park—has been the object of all sorts of anathema. It seems to me, however, that the modes in which so many thousands of human beings contrive to amuse themselves night after night, are worthy of a somewhat more considerate regard than that which manifests itself by puffs in the papers and blasts from the pulpit.

Boldly striking out, the other evening, into those densely populated regions which lie between Centre street and the East River—

"A filthy purlieu of a port,
Where Hebrew slop-sellers,
And cheating chop-sellers,
And trulls and tars resort"—

encountering many strange sights and smells in my progress, I found myself at length in front of the Bowery Theatre. Crossing the vestibule, from which the policemen then on duty were just then ejecting an intoxicated ruffian, I entered the vast amphitheatre, and was perfectly amazed by the spectacle spread out before me. A sea of heads stretched itself out on the right and left, and away to the orchestra-box, immediately in front of the stage, and gallery above gallery, up to the lofty dome, presented a dense mass of human beings. There could not have been less than between three or four thousand persons present, of all ages, and infinite variety of condition. The great majority of those in the boxes appeared to be of the middling class of shopkeepers, mechanics, and small tradesmen. There was great good order throughout the house, but a terrible munching of apples and pea-nuts; and the densely packed pit appeared to be in a state of profuse perspiration, from the evident anxiety to get rid of all superfluous clothing. I confess I awaited the rising of the curtain with a good deal of interest, for it was really worth something to learn for one's self the staple of that entertainment which had attracted such a vast congregation. At length the curtain was drawn. Some half dozen sturdy vagabonds, with tinselled inexpressibles, and immense helmets on their heads, were seated around a table, on which appeared a number of empty champaigne bottles. "Comrades, let us drink once more!" shouted one of the fellows, raising a tin cup to his lips. His associates made show of obedience, the audience regarding the scene with the profoundest attention. The principal vagabond—whose swaggering gait and a peculiar thickness of speech betokened recent libations more potent than those in which he had just indulged on the stage—then informed his auditors that he was determined to woo the "Naiad Queen." This declaration quite alarmed the other chaps with helmets and tinsel, and they shouted, "Oh! don't think of such a thing!" "I go!" exclaimed the swaggering hero; "who follows?" But none of his friends evinced any inclination to share his adventures; and at last, after several "parting drinks," in which his faithful associates most cordially joined him, off he started, accompanied only by his affectionate servant, a miserable scarecrow, dressed like a clown, whose grimaces put the pit in an ecstasy. In the next scene, the knight and his attendant arrived at the scene of his romantic adventures—a cavern on the banks of the Rhine, which was represented by a few pieces of board, painted black for rocks, a strip of blue muslin stretched across the entrance being the river. An attenuated female figure, with a very long nose and very scant drapery, then made her appearance on one of the rocks overhanging the river; and the knight, whose tongue was becoming thicker every moment, making a desperate plunge towards the mouth of the cavern, poured out a rhapsody of which not six words were entirely audible, though the boxes lauded it with a thundering round of applause. The creature on the rock shook her head, and, sustained by a wire, glided downward to the counter of the stage, where she disappeared through a trap-door, behind the blue muslin, the audience testifying their delight and astonishment in quite a vociferous manner. But the knight was not thus to be foiled, for he instantly clambered up the rocks, and, after politely waving his hand to the audience, boldly leaped after the nymph in scant drapery, and, scrambling away on all-fours, was out of sight in a moment. Meantime, his poor servant, the clown, who had been quite dumb from fear or astonishment, now uttered a piteous cry, which elicited general laughter. A biped, in buffalo skin, armed with a club, and wearing a hideous mask, now rushed on the stage, and between him and the clown a fierce encounter took place, amid excited cheers from all parts of the theatre. At length, the monster, who got rather the worst of it, disappeared through a trap-door, whilst the clown, pulling a flask from his pocket, seated himself on the stage, and, bowing to the audience, informed them that "he believed he was now fairly entitled to a private drink;" to which the audience—not to be outdone in politeness—at once responded in a universal guffaw. The next scene opened with the "Bath of Beauty," as it was facetiously styled in the bills, in which some eighteen or twenty female anatomies sprawled about the stage in a style utterly graceless in every sense of the term. Into this delectable gathering the knight now pursued the nymph in scant drapery, when he in his turn encountered the monster. Another terrific combat—great shouts from the galleries and pit—great scampering of all the female anatomies—a great hubbub in the orchestra, and the curtain fell on the first act. I then left the theatre, quite oppressed by the melancholy reflections which the strange, sad spectacle had naturally excited.

The Chatham Theatre, in the same region of the city, is capable of containing an audience of about fifteen hundred persons. It is crowded every night. Melodrama of the lowest and most demoralizing character is the staple commodity dealt out at this establishment. Murder, robbery, burglary, crimes of every description, are here represented. Felons and cut-throats are the heroes of this stage, of which the principal patrons seem to be Jews, newsboys, and sailors.

Then there is the Olympic Theatre, in Broadway. It is a small house, holding about six hundred persons. Stupid faces, coarse burlesques, bad music, and showy women, are its attractions. Young apprentices and clerks, men about town, and verdant youths from the country, are the chief supporters of the Olympic.

The Circus, in the Bowery, attracts about sixteen hundred spectators every night. A well-conducted circus is one of the safest species of public amusement for the young. But here the coarse jests of an "indecent clown," the vulgar and unseemly "tumbling," and the ribaldry of a large portion of the spectators, render the place very unwholesome.

At the Park Theatre, what is called the "respectable drama" maintains a dubious sort of existence, willingly yielding the boards to dancers, fiddlers, gymnasts, pugilists, or any other vagabond candidate for ephemeral favor. The "fashionables," that is to say, the aristocracy of the sugar-hogshead, dry goods, and lots, no longer patronize the "Old Drury," which mainly derives its support from strangers and that class of store-keepers and traders who are not yet able to live in a palace up-town, and rent a pew in Grace Church.

I have now mentioned the principal places of amusement to which those who are styled "the ungodly" resort, omitting, however, the very numerous "free concerts" at drinking establishments, which yearly lead thousands to ruin.

A few evenings since, I was enlightened on a point with regard to which I felt much curiosity. I was a good deal at a loss to know whether the disciples of those religious teachers who denounce the drama in any shape, indulged in any public amusement; and, if they did, what those amusements were? Passing the "Mechanics' Hall," in Broadway, I saw, by the light of two magnificent lamps, a large placard, announcing that "Christy's Minstrels" were performing within; and, being informed that they had been attracting overflowing houses for two months past, I entered, in order to judge of their quality. The hall, capable of seating eight hundred persons, was crowded to excess, and, as usual, no thought of providing for its ventilation having entered the mind of the architect, the effluvium was oppressive in the extreme. On a platform at the end of the hall were seated six young men, with their faces blackened, and who were now shouting in full chorus the classic melody of "Dandy Jim of the Caroline!" These were the Minstrels! I looked around on the audience. It was composed chiefly of highly respectable citizens, who would have regarded it as worse than bankruptcy to be seen within the walls of a theatre! Yet here they were, with their wives and daughters, enjoying for a whole evening a vulgar caricature of a class of their fellow-men whose sad lot surely demanded the tear of Christian sympathy, rather than the loud laughter of the fool! Yes, there they sat, these intellectual, evangelical, theatre-hating, Presbyterian, Dutch Reformed Christians, encoring the doggrel slang of these delectable minstrels, and applauding till the roof rang again the performance of one of them, who, in female apparel, danced before them with vulgar and indecent gestures!

None of my readers, I trust, will regard this passing notice of the popular amusements of this great metropolis out of place in the "National Era," a journal which seeks, in a large and liberal Christian spirit, the improvement and elevation of our race. My object is to show that the tendency of these amusements is to dissipate and degrade our fellow-men; and that mere denunciation will not remedy the evil. Reformers are apt to fall into extremes. Thus, in our day, one set of reformers regard man as a purely physical being. According to these Solons, if we would only consent to live in vast hen-coops, and be fattened like poultry, all would be well. Another set of reformers regard man, on the other hand, as a purely spiritual being, who is to subsist and be merry on sermons and other theological provender. If your philosophers and reformers would only condescend to be practical! Men will seek amusement, and it is wisely and beneficently ordered that they should seek amusements. The drama—presenting a renovated picture of life, a compendium of whatever is moving and progressive in human existence—is, in its very essence, a natural, delightful, and elevated species of diversion, to claim for it no higher character. But fear not a disquisition. I desire only to make a suggestion. Why should not Christian philanthropy provide in our large cities well-devised and well-conducted places of popular amusement? Why should not the refining and humanizing influences of music, painting, natural philosophy, and the drama, be combined, under the management of Christian men, and rendered available to the people, in properly-conducted public halls, to which the prices of admission would be as low as possible? I know that, in Glasgow, the great manufacturing metropolis of Great Britain, concerts for the people have been given on Saturday evenings, with the happiest results. Is not this subject, at all events, worthy of serious attention? For myself, I cannot behold thousands of my fellow-men, night after night, subjected to the demoralizing influences of the present system of popular amusement without some concern, and an earnest desire to see some effort made to effect a reform.

IMPORTANT MOVEMENT—A COMMERCIAL TRIBUNAL.

At the last stated monthly meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, a most important subject was presented to the attention of the body. This was the expediency of establishing a commercial tribunal, for the cheap examination and decision of commercial questions. In other commercial countries such tribunals exist; and now that the whole judiciary system of this State is about to be remodeled, the consideration of this suggestion is very opportune. This tribunal would be something analogous to a court of arbitration, the expenses being paid by these upon whose business and interests it should be called upon to adjudicate. A committee was appointed to report on the subject. One of the greatest social evils is excessive litigation. Any movement which tends to do away with the present cumbrous machinery of law, and diminish the number of lawyers, should be hailed as a great public blessing.

THE GROG-SHOPS ILLUMINATED—A GUNPOWDER PATRIOT.

On Friday evening Barnum's Museum had a formidable rival in the Astor House, which was illuminated in honor of the "glorious achievements in Mexico;" there was a great crowd of boys, and "children of a larger growth," who stood silently regarding the building, without the smallest display of enthusiasm. I overheard two eminent citizens, one a general of militia and the other a magistrate, calculating to the fag-end of a candle the cost of the illumination! Some of the principal grog-shops, not to be outdone in patriotism, have advertised, this morning, their intention to illuminate their premises, "in honor of the several recent glorious victories." And, to cap the climax of folly, one "Henry Storms, Commissary General of the State of New York," a peaceful saddler by trade, but who has evidently a soul above leather, issues the following most characteristic announcement:

"GRAND SALUTE TO-DAY.

"Commissary General's Department,
Headquarters, New York, April 10, 1847.

"Deeming the recent glorious achievements and successes of our arms in Mexico of lasting and memorable importance, and worthy of being proclaimed throughout the entire length and breadth of the Empire State by a simultaneous discharge of artillery, I hereby, in virtue of my office as commissary general, (and with the approbation of the commander-in-chief,) do direct a grand national salute, and an additional gun for each victory, to be fired on Monday, the 12th instant, at 12 o'clock, noon, by the commandants of each of the following stations, viz: Fort Tompkins, Narrows, Staten Island; the Battery, New York city; Albany and Buffalo, on Lake Erie; and by each of the commandants of the several State arsenals, on the day following the receipt of this order. The national colors to be displayed from sunrise to sunset.

"HENRY STORMS,
Commissary General S. N. Y.

"N. B. This order has been transmitted by telegraph to the commandants of the several stations mentioned therein."

When it is considered that the good people of the State of New York pay for the powder, the "General's" explosive patriotism must certainly be regarded as of "lasting and memorable importance." This is the same military hero who, on one occasion, in toasting one of the volunteer companies, expressed his fervent desire that its excellent captain "might continue its captain till time should be no more!" Am I not right, then, in saying that this chivalric man of explosion has a soul far above leather? In fact he——might act as aid to General Benton.

On Saturday, a few small dealers in politics called "a meeting of the merchants" at the Exchange. It was a small affair in reality, but of course looks very large in the newspapers. Mr. P. M. Wetmore read a string of resolutions couched in the usual slang style. Orators were called for, but no one responded. Pray, what are the "virtue, intelligence, and moral sense" of the community doing meanwhile? Oh! what a besetting and prevalent sin is cowardice?

IMMIGRANTS.

On one day last week, one thousand and thirty-six poor immigrants arrived from Liverpool, Glasgow, and London. Sad images of disease and hunger meet the eye at every corner in the lower portions of the city. Wan, dejected women, with dying children in their arms, and men gaunt and bowed down with famine, ask you for bread; and yet religious societies offer prizes for the best essay on the sinfulness of dancing, and there is no asylum for these destitute strangers!

A SACRED DRILL SERGEANT.

An Episcopal clergyman gave a public exhibition in the Park, the other day, of a somewhat remarkable character. His pupils—the divine is the principal of an academy—were put through a series of military evolutions, in which it seems the holy man has instructed them! Just think of it! A servant of Christ teaching the young generation how to handle the musket! A startling reading of the text, "Suffer little children to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven!"

THE ANTI-SLAVERY ROOMS.

Let me commend to the notice of all friends of the Liberty cause who visit New York, the Anti-Slavery Rooms at No. 5 Spruce street, near the Park. There they will find the best newspaper reading room in the city—all the new anti-slavery publications—and the Christian and brotherly attention of the secretary, W. Harned, Esq., one of the most amiable and kindest of men. This is the grand depot of information and intelligence respecting the cause. I speak advisedly, and from an appreciative experience of the advantages to be derived from visiting these rooms, when I thus recommend them to the notice of visiters.

GENERAL NEWS.

There is little general news of interest.

The Hudson opened last Thursday, and the navigation has been fully resumed on that great highway of commerce and travel.

A propeller left Buffalo on the 8th, for the West. The Express says, we may expect a boat in twenty-four hours.

The Canandaigua town election last week resulted in the choice of the entire Whig ticket—204 to 96.

The freshet, which did considerable damage at Albany, is subsiding. The Democratic members of the Legislature recommend a State convention, to be held at Syracuse on the 19th of May next, to nominate candidates for judges of the court of appeals and a clerk of that court.

"The stock market has been in a very unsettled state throughout the past week, and prices have in some instances fluctuated several per cent. The exciting and favorable advices from the seat of war, and the numerous arrivals, with one, two, and three days later intelligence from Europe, have created a feverish excitement in the stock market.

"The arrival of seven days later news from Liverpool, brought by the Washington Irving, at Boston, had a tendency to unsettle the market. There seemed to be some discrepancy of opinions with regard to the purport of the news, so far as breadstuffs were concerned. In this respect, some merchants viewed the news in a favorable light, and considered prices were better maintained than they anticipated, owing to the demand existing in France for supplies, which were, to a considerable extent, in the way of being sent forward from England, which relieved the market in that quarter, in the face of increased arrivals from the United States. Buyers, on the contrary, in consequence of the news, were disposed to claim some concession from sellers, who appeared unwilling to meet them, and hence operations were materially checked, and sales made to a less extent than for some time previously. Genesee, to arrive by the river, sold at \$7.50. Northern yellow corn commanded from \$1 to \$1.03—the latter price for the article delivered alongside of the ship. A sale of Jersey red wheat was made at \$1.46. Meal continued to sell at \$4.87 1-2. Provisions were steady at previous rates."

There are two steamers nearly due—the Sarah Sands, the packet of April 1st; and the Cambria, the packet of the 4th. The former is now in her twelfth day, and the latter in her eighth day. They will both be in this week, without much doubt, with several days later intelligence.

John Smith the Younger.

Baltimore, *April* 13, 1847.

Salutatory—Origin and circumstances of this correspondence—The War—Inconsistencies of the Press—Gen. Taylor as a Missionary—An amusing slave-catching incident, &c.

The habitual readers of the National Era will, no doubt, be informed, by editorial announcement, of the circumstances under which this its first regular Baltimore correspondence is opened—a large number of new readers (new to the Era, but not so to me) having already been informed thereof by announcement through another channel. With the latter class of readers it will be my peculiar pleasure to continue communion, while I indulge the fond anticipation of adding to that pleasure through a large accession of such as will be willing readers of my thoughts, however feebly and inefficiently imparted.

It is to be my province to note and record such local facts and events as bear upon the great theme whose elucidation and enforcement were the leading purposes of the novel and important project of an anti-slavery press in the very centre of our national being; but I desire it to be understood that not to this point alone is it my intention to confine my correspondence. Allow me to differ from some of my *quondam* editorial brethren, whose opinion a much-valued exchange with the Saturday Visiter enabled me to ascertain, wherein they have complained of the diversified nature of the contents of that paper. Diversity is the order of mind, as it is of nature; and it becomes absolutely essential in all manifestations of mind through the popular press, especially if that press is to be brought to bear upon such a theme as slavery, in the circle of its own influence. It is no easy matter for the anti-slavery reader, seated at his quiet fireside, in a family circle of which he himself is the intellectual and moral centre, perhaps dwelling in the midst of a populace who are fully agreed on the question at issue—it is not easy for such a one to appreciate the circumstances surrounding those who hold the helm editorial amid the breakers of popular prejudice in a slave region! No; the popular mind must be dealt with in accordance with the operations of its own laws. It must become gradually familiarized and habituated to the truth, just as the nerves of the enfeebled invalid are prepared, by gentle strokes of the electro-magnetic fluid, for the safe and effective reception of the more intense charge of its hidden power. But why dwell on this point, you may ask? I answer, only because my often perplexing experience has made me aware that there are not a few anti-slavery men in the free States who are decidedly in the wrong on this point, and have therefore need to review the question, and to learn to mingle a few more grains of charitable allowance with their so readily and freely measured, or, rather, *un*-measured, censure.

Of course, the "glorious success" of our "*Home* squadron" at Vera Cruz, is the "leading topic" here, as elsewhere, within the reach of the officially confirmed news. The more excitable portion of our population are, of course, in ecstasy, and the daily papers do not fail to take advantage of the fact, with "extra" efforts to pander to the morbid feelings of the crowd. But only to think of the course of our "respectable sixpennies." Did inconsistency ever go farther? Look at the *American*, for example, which, after opposing the present war, and denouncing it as unwarrantable and hungling, sends forth this editorial paragraph:

"A career, arduous but *glorious*, opens now before our troops; a career crowned, at its extremity, by the *towers and battlements of Mexico, overshadowed by the star-spangled banner*."

Recollect, that is not a paragraph leaded up, with a credit to the "Union" or "Picayune" blindly crowded in beneath glaring letters of "glory," but a deliberate utterance of the editor.

Speaking of generals, reminds me to record a quite characteristic religious movement for our day and generation—nothing less than making General Taylor a "life member" of the "Western Home Missionary Society of Baltimore." This was done in Light-street church the other evening. Perhaps all of the readers of the Era are not aware of the extreme piety of "Old Rough and Ready."

Besides, what is General Taylor but a "missionary?"—a chief of missionaries, after the manner pursued by the "Cruel British" in China! Our religion and our principles of government *must* be propagated in Mexico; and what if Jesus did say to Peter, "Put up thy sword!" The religious teachers of *our* day, not a few of them, have become wiser and holier, and are ready to cry, "Put in thy sword—ay, into the very vitals of the enemy!" The great Teacher said, "If thine enemy hunger, *feed* him; if he thirst, give him *drink;*" but these our "missionaries" would say, "If he hunger, cause him to *bite the dust.*"

We had rather a table-turning incident the other day. It appears that the driver of an omnibus running between this city and Ellicott's Mills arrested a colored man whom he supposed to be a fugitive slave, and ordered him to take a seat beside him. The footman refused at first, protesting his freedom; but at length he gave in, being too tired for a chase, as was supposed. When they arrived in town, the arrester hurried his prize before a justice of the peace, his heart beating joyfully at the expectation of securing a rich reward from his owner; when, lo and behold! the colored man presented his "free papers," coolly but respectfully returning thanks for the pleasant ride which had been furnished him! The driver then demanded pay for the jaunt; but it was no go, and he had to swallow his chagrin, and digest it at his leisure!

This system of arresting fugitive slaves does not always prove even so lucky a transaction, as badly as it "paid," as a case which occurred not long since in one of our largest slave counties, and others which might be narrated, clearly and fearfully prove. But more of this subject hereafter, my present letter having already transcended the space which it was my purpose to use on the present occasion.
J. E. S.

Fast Day—Pigeon Mail.

Boston, *April* 10, 1847.

Thursday of the present week was set apart, by a proclamation of Governor Briggs, to be observed as a day of fasting and prayer throughout the State. Accordingly, the shops were closed, and religious services were held in most of the churches. By most persons, however, the day was observed rather as an occasion of hilarity and pleasure, and the common was covered, from an early hour of the morning, with thousands of persons who assembled soon after daybreak to witness a trial of skill between the firemen of our four adjoining cities. The fire department of Boston stands probably unrivalled in the United States for promptitude and efficiency, and will bear comparison with that of any other city, as regards the power as well as beauty of its engines. The exhibition was, altogether, a fine one, and the water flew in torrents many feet above the top of the lofty liberty pole which stands by the frog pond, near the centre of the common. There was rather an unusual amount of rowdyism throughout the day, and several fights took place, in one of which, an ear formed a portion of the "*exuviæ*" carried off by one of the combatants. In Brighton, a regular row was kicked up, knives were drawn, and the prompt interference of the police alone prevented a bloody affray.

The following appointments, at Harvard College, have just been announced: John B. S. Jackson, M. D., Professor of Pathological Anatomy; Oliver Wendell Holmes, M. D., Parkman Professor of Anatomy; Jeffries Wyman, M. D., Hersey Professor of Comparative Anatomy. The two latter of these appointments have been caused by the resignation of Dr. J. C. Warren, the Hersey Professor, who has so long occupied the chair, and who is extensively known, both in this country and in Europe, for his skill as an operator, and his repeated additions to medical science. All the appointments seem to be received with decided approbation by the members of the profession in the vicinity; and the hope cannot but be felt, that the school will receive a new impulse from the zeal and ambition of these gentlemen, who are all in the prime of life, and deeply devoted to their profession.

A bill has been reported to the House, in the State Legislature, to establish the lien of mechanics and others on land and buildings. It provides that mechanics and others who labor in the erection of buildings, or their repairs, may have a lien on the buildings and the materials furnished, as well as on the whole piece of land on which they are erected, as security for their wages. It also provides that persons furnishing materials may have a similar lien for the value of said materials. The great amount of knavery practised by false transfers of buildings while in process of erection, makes the passage of such an act of great importance to our mechanics, as a means of protection against this species of fraud.

A plan is on foot to construct a railway partly round the city, so as to connect all the interior roads with the deep water at East Boston; and a promise of subscriptions for a large part of the capital stock required (\$1,200,000) has been already received. The Chelsea branch railroad is a part of this line, and the Eastern Railroad Company have applied for leave to subscribe for a portion of its stock.

A Nantucket man has been engaged for nearly three years in training pigeons, so as to establish a pigeon express between Nantucket and the main land. He has been so successful that his line now runs regularly to Cape Pogé, which is about twenty miles from the island; and one day last week the bird arrived more than an hour before the mail. These birds are very strong on the wing, and there seems to be no reason why they should not realize the expectations of the proprietor.

The trustees of Andover Theological Seminary have elected the Rev. Prof. Park to the chair of didactic theology, made vacant by the late resignation of the Rev. Dr. Woods.

Accounts from different parts of the State speak of the spread of revivals of religion, and increasing interest in the subject. Rev. Mr. Rich, of Nantucket, and formerly of your city, in a letter to a friend here, mentions that there have been fifty-six hopeful conversions in that place. A letter from Williamstown states that there have been over seventy conversions in the town, and about twenty in the college which is located there.

Rev. David Greene, one of the secretaries of the American Board of Foreign Missions, has lately had an attack of paralysis of a very severe character, and considerable doubt exists as to his recovery.

Our weather is perfectly in character with the season of the year; warm, alternately cloudy and clear, sun and rain, with plenty of wind.
G. F. B.

CAPITULATION OF THE CITY OF VERA CRUZ AND THE CASTLE OF SAN JUAN D'ULUA.

As might have been expected, from the formidable preparations for taking Vera Cruz, that city, together with the Castle, has fallen under the power of the American army. This event must exert a decisive influence over the relations of the two countries. The carnage among the Mexicans was dreadful. General Scott delayed opening the guns upon the city for eight hours, to give the women and children an opportunity to leave, assuring them of protection, and whatever property they might have to carry away with them, but not a soul profited by this privilege. The heroic women would not abandon their husbands, and fathers, and brothers; and the result was terrible. The Mexicans variously estimate their loss at from 500 to 1,000 killed and wounded, the destruction being greatest among the women and children. General Scott, we suppose, ere this, is on his march to the city of Mexico. A battle was expected at Puente de Rey, a strong pass, unless it could be turned.

The following memoranda we take from the Pensacola Gazette:

From the Pensacola Gazette of Saturday, 3d instant.

The City and Castle of Vera Cruz in the possession of the American Troops—A Garrison of four thousand men surrendered Prisoners of War—Five Generals surrendered—Sixty Superior Officers surrendered—Two hundred and seventy Company Officers surrendered—General La Vega, with a Force of from six thousand to ten thousand Cavalry, repulsed by three hundred U. S. Dragoons—Total American loss, sixty-five Killed and Wounded—Three American Officers Killed: Captain John R. Vinton, 2d Artillery; Capt. Alburtis, 2d Infantry; Midshipman T. B. Shubrick, Navy.

The U. S. war steamer Princeton, bearing the broad pennant of Com. Conner, arrived at this port this morning, and came to anchor off our wharf at half past nine o'clock—exchanging salutes with the Navy Yard as she passed. The Princeton sailed from Vera Cruz on the 29th ultimo, and brings the glorious intelligence of the reduction of that city, with the Castle of San Juan d'Ulua, and their entire, unconditional surrender to our arms.

We are indebted to one of the officers of the P. for the following summary of proceedings in this most brilliant achievement—an achievement that will redound more to the glory of our army and marine, among the nations abroad, than any that has yet had place in our military annals.

March 9th.—Disembarkation of troops commenced.

March 14th.—Investment of the city complete.

March 18th.—Trenches opened at night.

March 22d.—City summoned to surrender—on refusal, seven mortars opened a fire of bombs.

March 24th.—Navy battery, three long 32-pounders and three 68-pounders—Paixhan guns—opened a fire in the morning, distance 70 yards.

March 25th.—Another battery of four 24-pounders and 3 mortars opened. This day the navy battery opened on a breach in the wall of the city; the fire was very destructive to the town.

March 26th.—Early in the morning the enemy proposed for a surrender. Commissioners on the American side—Generals Worth and Pillow, and Col. Totten.

March 29th.—Negotiations completed—city and castle surrendered—Mexican troops marched out, and laid down their arms. The American troops occupied the city and batteries of the town and castle. At noon of that day, the American ensign was hoisted over both, and was saluted by our vessels.

The garrison, of about 4,000 men, laying down their arms as prisoners of war, and being sent to their homes on parole. Five Generals, 60 superior officers, and 270 company officers, amongst the prisoners.

The total loss of the American army, from the day of landing, (March 9,) is 65 persons, killed and wounded.

Officers Killed.—Captain John R. Vinton, 2d artillery; Captain Alburtis, 2d infantry; Midshipman T. B. Shubrick, navy.

Officers Wounded.—Lieut. Col. Dickinson, South Carolina volunteers, severely; Lieut. A. S. Baldwin, navy, slightly; Lieut. Delozier Davidson, 2d infantry, very slightly; Lieut. Lewis Neill, 2d dragoons, severely. All the wounded are doing well.

Of the Mexicans, the slaughter is said to have been immense. The Commanding General was stationed in the city, while his second in command held the castle. Their regular force was about 3,000, and they had about the same number of irregulars. Outside the city was Gen. La Vega, with a force of from 6,000 to 10,000 cavalry. Col. Harney, with between 200 and 300 U. S. dragoons, charged on and repulsed this immense force, with terrible carnage, scattering them in all directions. They had barricaded a bridge, to protect themselves; but our artillery soon knocked away this obstacle, and gave Harney's command a chance at them.

In the attack on the town and castle, only our smaller vessels, drawing not over nine feet, were available. But few shots and shells were thrown upon the castle—the attack being mainly upon the town. None of the enemy's missiles struck our vessels; and Midshipman Shubrick, who was killed, was serving a battery on shore. With the city the hopes of the enemy fell, as they had not provisions in the castle to sustain a protracted siege.

The Princeton is commanded by Capt. Engle; as she sailed from Vera Cruz, Com. Conner's flag was saluted from the Castle of San Juan d'Ulua. The Commodore is a passenger on board, having been relieved by Com. Perry before the commencement of these operations.

The following is from Colonel Totten's memoranda:

The principal terms of capitulation were: That the garrison should lay down their arms as prisoners of war—officers retaining their swords; that they should march out with the honors of war—saluting the flags of city and castle from their own batteries, on striking them, at the moment the troops were surrendering their arms; that the troops, regulars and irregulars, should be discharged and dispersed to their homes, under parole given upon their own rolls, and by their own officers, not to serve against the United States until duly exchanged—officers giving, at the same time, their own parole for themselves individually; that all public property of every description should become the property of the United States; that such portions of the armament as may not have been destroyed during the continuance of the war, *may* be liable to be restored by stipulations in the treaty of peace; that private property is to be inviolate, and not liable to be taken without arrangement with the owner; that the religion of the inhabitants, its institutions and ceremonies, are solemnly guarantied; that officers and men under parole may remain in the city, to settle private affairs, not to exceed five days.

A friendly communication has been opened with the town of Medellin, twelve miles southward of Vera Cruz, after a sharp skirmish, conducted by Col. Harney against some troops that attempted to obstruct the way. And an expedition, by land and water, was about to proceed to Alvarado; where, however, no opposition was looked for. Indeed, it was confidently stated in camp, when the Princeton sailed, that Mexican commissioners had already arrived, for the purpose of treating for the submission of that place. The principal object of Gen. Scott at Alvarado is to open a source of supply of horses, mules, and beef cattle.

We hope this may be the final battle. The war is becoming a perfect slaughter of the Mexicans. God grant that the next news may bring the tidings of preliminaries for peace!

LATER FROM MEXICO.

A letter from Mr. Kendall to the Picayune, dated March 29, says:

"From the city of Mexico, through the foreign fleet, I have later intelligence to communicate. On the 19th instant, it is reported that Santa Anna was in the capital; that he had joined the clergy; had put down the revolution of Gomez Farias and Salas; and that with his new associates he is now anxious for peace."

From the camp of Gen. Taylor.—It was our pleasure last evening, says the New Orleans Delta of the 4th instant, to be introduced to Maj. McCulloch, the celebrated partisan officer or Texas Ranger. He brings the latest news from Gen. Taylor's camp. The General, after the battle of Buena Vista, having felt satisfied that there was nothing to be apprehended from Santa Anna and his discomfited troops, turned his attention to Urrea and the clearing of the road from Monterey to Camargo, infested by his command, regular troops, and rancheros. With this view, taking with him what he deemed to be a sufficient force, he set out on the 16th ultimo from Saltillo, touching at Monterey.

When thirty miles this side of Monterey, he met Col. Curtis and his command, about which Urrea and his forces hung, looking out for some propitious moment to attack them, but fearful to make the charge. As soon as Gen. Taylor came up to the forces of Col. Curtis, he formed from both commands a division, with which he went in pursuit of Urrea, determined to draw a fight out of him, or drive him beyond the mountains; which latter alternative there is no doubt Urrea resorted to. Col. Curtis, in the mean time, quietly proceeded on with his train to Monterey.

The Matamoras Flag, of the 27th ultimo, gives further accounts from Santa Anna's army. They were communicated by a letter dated from Tula, the 11th of March, written by a Mexican officer to a friend in Matamoras. The letter says Santa Anna arrived at San Luis Potosi on the 8th ult. He returned at the head of a remnant of one of the divisions of the army with which he marched out to attack General Taylor; the remaining two divisions having marched in directions where food might be procured for the famishing soldiery. The writer remarks of the battle and retreat:

"We have suffered a far greater loss than in any engagement ever before fought in the country. Upwards of four thousand were left on the battle-field or died on the retreat. The army was destitute of provisions of any kind, and the soldiers were rendered ferocious by their privations and sufferings. Disaffection is wide spread throughout the ranks, and I may say the army under Santa Anna is virtually broken up."

This letter also mentions the death of several citizens of Matamoros, officers in the Mexican army, who were killed in the late battle.

SHIPWRECKS AND LOSS OF LIFE ON THE GULF.

A letter from Com. Perry to the Secretary of the Navy, dated March 26, on board the steamer Mississippi, says:

"I am writing in the midst of one of the heaviest northers I have ever experienced. Twenty-three merchant vessels have already gone ashore since morning, many of them with army stores and munitions.

"The vessels of the squadron have, so far, held on. The loss of life, I fear, will be great. This is the third norther we have had since I took command, five days since, and we have had thirty wrecks.

"Both the Raritan and Potomac have had vessels across the hawses. I am ignorant of the extent of damage done to these vessels, but notice that the Raritan has her fore and sprit-sail yard carried away.

"The Ohio and Mississippi are the only vessels arrived, of all those expected; and I have all day been fearing that the former would not hold on. The steamers are not in so much danger, as they all work their wheels or propellers."

A letter from the Commodore, dated the 23d, also says:

"I regret to announce the loss of the steamer Hunter, the particulars of which disaster are detailed in the accompanying report of Lieut. McLaughlin.

"I had arrived a few hours before, and fortunately, from the admirable qualities of this ship, was enabled to go to the assistance of the three vessels ashore, the moment at early dawn I discovered their distress, though it was blowing at the time a gale.

"The boats of this vessel, under the special charge of Capt. Mayo, who volunteered his service, and commanded, respectively, by Lieuts. Decamp, Alden, and Blunt, and Passed Midshipman Fauntleroy, happily rescued every one, more than sixty in number, from the wrecks."

We may therefore anticipate that the rumored loss of the ship Ohio, brought by an arrival at New Orleans, is without foundation, especially as the following letter from our correspondent, dated about two weeks later than the date of the report, does not include her in the list of vessels on shore:

Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.

Camp Washington, *March* 29.

List of vessels ashore under Sacrificios.—Brig Caroline, Capt. Sutton, Government stores, bilged; brig Mary Ann, with Government stores, bilged; schr. Sear, sutler's stores, total loss; schr. Phœbe Eliza, Capt. Howard, Government stores, right had situation; schr. Louisa, Smith, do., total loss; schr. Ellanore, do., total loss; schr. Sea Nymph, Drew, do. do.; schr. Monitor, Sword, do. do.; schr. Blanche, E. Sayre, do. do.; schr. Harriet Smith, Williamson, do. do.; schr. Corrine, do. do.; barque Mopang, Boobcar, do. do.; schr. Ellen, Smith, do. do.; brig Will, Decker, do. do.; schr. Oscar, Jones, do., off in a few days; schr. T. H. Walker, do., total loss; schr. A. G. Horton, do., bilged; schr. Tiolo, do. do.; brig Orion, Capt. Randall, do. do.; schr. Mary Prime, Goline, do. do.; schr. Pacific, Micks, do., total loss; schr. Volasco, do. do.; brig Ellen and Clara, do., doubtful; brig Othello, do., total loss; ship Diadem, dismasted; schr. Enterprise, dismasted; schr. Caroline.

North of the Castle.—Brigs Patterson, Pensacola, John Potter, and one brig unknown.

Gen. Taylor and the Presidency.—A paragraph got into our last paper which looks very much like an editorial nomination of Gen. Taylor for next President. Of course, its appearance was adverse to our wishes, and is regretted. We profer fair play to the friends of all Whig candidates, but do not intend to meddle with the selection—certainly not for a while yet.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

FOREIGN NEWS—STILL LATER.

The *Hibernia* brought news from Liverpool to the 6th ultimo. On our outside to-day we publish the news by the packet ship Northumberland, two days later, up to the 6th ultimo. We have still later intelligence by the *Wyoming*, which arrived at Philadelphia last Thursday, having sailed from Liverpool on the 14th ultimo; and by the Washington Irving, which arrived in Boston last Saturday morning, from Liverpool, with dates to the 21st March. At that date, cotton, flour, and grain, were all falling. Cotton had declined ⅛d. per pound. The importation of Indian corn and flour was abundant, and exportation to Ireland was considerable.

O'Connell is still suffering—the mere shadow of his former portly figure—but his medical attendants apprehend no immediate danger.

There have been destructive inundations in Hungary.

Switzerland has been the scene of food riots.

In the British House of Commons, Mr. Ewart had made a motion for leave to bring in a bill for the total abolition of the death penalty. It was negatived by a majority of 40.

Food riots were occurring at different places on the continent.

Civil disturbances, or rather *uncivil* ones, continued in Portugal.

The ten hours bill was still under discussion in Parliament.

Pope Pius IX was winning golden opinions from all sorts of men. Mr. Cobden had retired from an audience with him, filled with respect. A deputation from Bologna had presented the Pope with a token of their love.

Food riots had taken place in Ross-shire, Scotland.

Antrim is the only county in Ireland which had not touched the Government money. It had not only taken care of itself, but contributed to others.

The differences between "the Holy See" and the Cabinet of St. Petersburg have been adjusted.

The London corn trade was very firm on Wednesday, March 17, for wheat, English and foreign, of which the supplies have been only small, and much below the general demand which exists for immediate use, by the malters, and for exportation to France, although higher prices have not been freely paid. The business has been at fully the prices of Monday, and sales have been generally refused unless at higher rates.

Indian corn, of which the arrivals have been larger since the change of wind, is to be obtained at lower rates, there being numerous buyers at hand for this grain, where the prices show any tendency to decline.

The reports of the extensive arrivals of flour and Indian corn at the port of Liverpool had not produced any influence in the London market, where the supplies were far below the present demand for every article for the home and foreign trade.

For the National Era.

MOVEMENT OF BAPTISTS.

We are gratified to learn that the leading Baptist ministers of Boston and vicinity are coming out in opposition to *slavery*. Of all the religious denominations, the Baptists have been loudest in their professions of liberty and the democratic principle. From the nature of their church organizations, each church being entirely independent of every other, the Baptists have not even the miserable apology which the other large denominations of this country have, namely: that of the necessity of keeping the church undivided.

Notwithstanding this advantage in their favor, it must be confessed that the Baptists, instead of taking the lead in opposition to slavery, have been behindhand.

We trust, however, that this reproach is now to cease.

At a recent meeting of the ministers of the Boston Association, a committee, consisting of Rev. Drs. Sharpe, Stow, and Choules, was appointed to draw up a remonstrance against slavery. This document has been adopted, and numerously signed by the Baptist ministers of Boston and vicinity, and is to be circulated for signatures throughout New England.

The following is the instrument, which we take from the *Christian Reflector*.
N.

DECLARATION AND PROTEST OF BAPTIST MINISTERS.

We, the undersigned, citizens of the United States of America, and ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, consider the positions which we occupy, and the relations which we sustain to God and our country, as requiring of us, at the present time, a public and explicit declaration of our views with respect to the subject of slavery.

The duty is by no means agreeable to our tastes or feelings. In yielding to its claims, we have no private ends to answer; we are impelled by no pressure of public sentiment around us. We are freemen, and use our liberty under the direction of enlightened consciences.

Many of us have long waited, with the cherished hope that some reformatory movement, commenced and prosecuted by those to whom the whole matter more appropriately pertains, would render all action on our part unnecessary. But we are admonished, by most affecting disclosures, that such hope is vain, and that the time has arrived when we can neither decline nor postpone this service, without incurring, before God and man, a fearful responsibility.

Instead of a quickened conscience and a deepened spirit of humanity in the bosom of slaveholders, we have witnessed with painful surprise a growing disposition to justify, extend, and perpetuate, their iniquitous system. Not a few who once professed to regard it as a vicious and censurable institution, are now among its warmest and boldest defenders. Religious men, both in the ministry and the laity, with limited exceptions, not only give their personal influence in favor of the system, but even pervert the Word of God and all the institutions of Christianity to its support.

Under these circumstances, we can no longer be silent. We owe something to the oppressed as well as to the oppressor, and justice demands the fulfilment of the obligation. Truth, and humanity, and public virtue, have claims upon us which we cannot dishonor. Whatever may be the value of our testimony, we must, as honest men, employ it to vindicate the right, and promote the good.

We do, therefore, in the fear of God, declare, severally and jointly, that we disapprove and abhor the system of American slavery. Among the facts which render it to us peculiarly odious, are the following:

It recognises immortal beings as property, and treats them as commodities of commerce;

It extends over them a separate and oppressive code of laws, that bereaves them of their civil and social rights, and holds them liable to the most cruel abuses of irresponsible power;

It deprives both sexes of control over their own persons, their offspring, and the fruits of their labor;

It denies to them intellectual culture, and withholds from them the gift of their heavenly Father, the precious Bible.

The right thus to degrade and oppress a particular race of men, is defended upon principles that would apply with equal justice to any other portion of the human family.

With such a system we can have no sympathy. After a careful observation of its character and effects, and making every deduction which the largest charity can require, we are constrained to regard it as an outrage upon the rights and happiness of our fellow-men, for which there is no valid justification or apology. We can therefore sustain no relation, and perform no act, that will countenance the system, or imply indifference to its multiplied enormities. Against it, as a mass of complicated and flagrant wrong, we must record and proclaim our solemn protest. And especially must we, as ministers of the Son of God, protest against those perversions of the Sacred Oracles, by which it is attempted to make their Divine Author the patron and protector of a system which is so entirely repugnant to their principles and spirit.

But while we have these convictions and feelings, and utter them without equivocation or reserve, we should most heartily rejoice, could we learn that our fellow-citizens of the South were deliberating on their duties and obligations to the enslaved, and were determined wisely, speedily, equitably, and forever, to release them from their unrighteous bondage. We are confident that, in so doing, they would bonor themselves, promote their own happiness, and receive the applause of the wise and good throughout the world; and, what is infinitely more important, that God would bless them with the providential and gracious tokens of his approbation.

THE MARKETS.

Baltimore, *April* 13, 2 P. M.

There is decidedly more firmness in the flour market today. Although the quotations by the last arrival do not seem to justify an advance, yet most holders to-day are firm in asking \$6.75. There are buyers in the market freely offering \$6.62 1-2 for large quantities; which was refused, except in one instance, when we learn of a sale of 250 barrels at \$6.62 1-2 We note a sale this morning of 1,000 barrels corn meal, at \$4.75, which is firmly asked.

Grain.—The supply of all kinds of grain is unusually light, not equal to the demand. Sales of prime Pennsylvania red wheat at \$1.50. Good to prime Maryland reds, \$1.43 a \$1.48; ordinary to good, \$1.33 a \$1.43. Choice white wheat, for family flour, will bring \$1.60. Sales of prime white corn at 85 a 86 cents, and yellow at 91 a 92 cents; oats, 45 cents; rye, 78 a 80 cents; clover seed, \$4 a \$4.37 1-2, and dull; flax seed, \$1.40.

Cattle.—There were only 160 head of beeves offered at the scales Monday, all of which were sold except 30 head, at much improved rates, owing to the light supply. Prices ranged from \$3 to \$4.50 per 100 pounds on the hoof, equal to \$6 a \$8.75 net, and averaging \$4.12 1-2.

Hogs.—Live hogs of good quality are bringing \$7. Some indifferent parcels were sold at \$6.87 1-2.

Provisions.—Prime pork, \$13.25, cash; mess is held at \$16. Mess beef, \$12.50 a \$13; No. 1, \$10.50 a \$11; and prime, \$8.50 a \$9—with sales of 100 barrels No. 1 and prime within these quotations. Bacon is in fair demand; we quote shoulders at 7 1-2 a 7 3-4, sides at 8 3-4 a 9, and hams at 9 1-2 a 10 cents. Sales of 8,000 pounds shoulders at 7 5-8 cents, 10,000 pounds do. at 7 3-4 cents, and 40 hogsheads and 10,000 pounds sides at 9 cents. Also, sales of 40,000 pounds sides, in salt, at 8 1-2 a 8 3-4 cents; and 1,200 hams, in salt, a prime article, at 10 cents. We quote lard at 10 cents in kegs, and 9 1-2 cents in barrels; a sale of 200 kegs at 10 cents.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICES.

☞ Mr. V. B. Palmer, at his newspaper agency, New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and Baltimore, is duly authorized to procure advertisements for this paper.

☞ Within the last week we have received two or three requests to have the direction of papers changed, without informing us to what post office, county, or State, the papers have heretofore been sent. Without these, we cannot change the direction.

BIRNEY, WINANS, & CO., Importers and wholesale dealers in Drugs and Chemicals, manufacturers of Patent Ætna Matches, Chrome Green, Chrome Yellow, Prussian Blue, Fancy Soaps, Perfumery, Blue, Black, and Record Inks; dealers in Fancy Notions, importers of Cigars, &c. Warehouse and Depot at the southeast corner of Lower Market and Sycamore streets, Cincinnati, Ohio.
D. BIRNEY.
N. T. WINANS.
April 8. DAVID B. BIRNEY.

FINKBINE & KIRMAN'S new Leather and Finding Store, No. 239 Main street, west side, second door below the Gault House, Cincinnati.—F. & K. have, in connection with their Boot and Shoe Manufactory, opened and intend to keep constantly on hand a good assortment of Philadelphia Calf Skins, Kid, Morocco, pink and white Linings and Binding Skins, Spanish and Cincinnati Sole Leather, Pegs, Lasts, Boot Trees, Crimping Boards, Shoe Thread, Binding Thread, Linen Boot Web, Galloon, Shoe Ribbon, Laces and Lasting, Knives, Hammers, Pincers, Rasps, Awls, Sparables, Tacks, and every other article used in the manufacture of boots and shoes. We invite the attention of the Trade to our stock, which is all fresh, and has been selected with care, and will be sold, wholesale and retail, low, for Cash.
Special attention will be paid to all orders sent to us, and every article warranted. Jan. 7.

PLUMBE NATIONAL DAGUERREAN GALLERY AND PHOTOGRAPHERS' FURNISHING DEPOTS; awarded the gold and silver medals, four first premiums, and two highest honors, at the National, the Massachusetts, the New York, and Pennsylvania Exhibitions, respectively, for the most splendid colored Daguerreotypes and best apparatus ever exhibited.
Portraits taken in exquisite style, without regard to weather. Instructions given in the art.
A large assortment of apparatus and stock always on hand, at the lowest cash prices.
New York, 251 Broadway; Philadelphia, 136 Chesnut street; Boston, 75 Court and 58 Hanover streets; Baltimore, 205 Baltimore street; Washington, Pennsylvania avenue; Petersburg, Virginia, Mechanics' Hall; Cincinnati, Fourth and Walnut, and 176 Main street; Saratoga Springs, Broadway; Paris, 127 Vieille Rue du Temple; Liverpool, 32 Church street. Jan. 7.

BIGELOW & PEUGH, General Agents for the recovery of Claims before Congress and the Executive Departments; also, for procuring Patents for new inventions.
Office, corner of E and Seventh streets, Washington, D. C. Jan. 7.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

For the National Era.

PORTRAITS FOR THE PEOPLE.

BY JOHN SMITH THE YOUNGER.

No. 9.

THE PRIVATE CLAIMANT.

[CONCLUDED.]

Mudge had no inclination to enter the breakfast-room, and so he at once accompanied Slunk to Mr. Keen's office. It was a wooden building, in one of the streets leading into Pennsylvania avenue, standing isolated in the midst of a block not yet built up, and its front was covered all over with announcements, setting forth that "the Hon. Abraham Keen, formerly member of Congress, attended to the prosecution of all manner of claims against the United States and all foreign Governments." Keen was an Eastern man, and had a very high reputation for shrewdness and purity in all his dealings. He was about fifty years of age—rather handsome features, somewhat bald, a most unruffled temper, and a very soft tongue—and was, altogether, as smooth and sweet as a razor dipped in oil.

"I have had the pleasure, sir, of hearing of you from my honorable friend Mr. Slunk," said he to Mudge, in the softest and most musical tone imaginable, after the ceremony of introduction; "and I assure you it will afford me much happiness if I can be instrumental in forwarding your views in prosecution of the claim of which I am rejoiced to find you the legal representative. Your late excellent uncle was a very respected friend of mine."

"Yes, Jake was a good old dog," said Mudge; "he stuck to me like bricks."

"A very forcible expression, Slunk, very!" remarked Keen, if possible, in still blander tones than ever. "Really, Mr. Mudge, in this heartless and ungrateful world, it is peculiarly refreshing to meet with a man who cherishes manly feelings, and expresses them in a manly way. I honor you for your sentiments."

"Well, I'm, always ready to speak out my mind—that's sartain. I aint afeard of nothin'," said Mudge, feeling very much flattered, though he hardly knew why.

"Now, my dear sir," continued Keen, "I suppose you're aware that the management of these claims requires a great deal of experience and generalship. It is a humiliating fact, Mr. Mudge, that our Government is not always so prompt in the settlement of the just demands of its creditors as it ought to be."

"Yes; old Uncle Jake used to tell us as how he had most given up all hopes of this claim," said Mudge, with rather a downcast expression.

"The worst evil, however, Mr. Mudge, against which the claimant has to contend," Keen proceeded, "is the dishonesty, I am sorry to say, of many of the agents who undertake the management of their affairs."

"True as gospel," said Slunk, who had seated himself close by the stove, smoking his cigar, and humming the "Star-spangled Banner," with an air of great unconcern.

"Many a poor claimant, my dear sir," continued Keen, "after hanging on here at Washington session after session, has at length succeeded in getting a bill only to find that rascally agents—excuse the strong term; but really, on such a subject, one can't help becoming excited, Mr. Mudge—have cheated him out of every cent of his money."

"You don't say so?" said poor Mudge, looking rather uneasy.

"It is a lamentable fact, Mr. Mudge. However, it is to be hoped that the evil will be soon much abated. My friends, knowing my strong feelings on this subject, have insisted that I should consent to take up my residence here for some time, in order, if possible, to interpose some check to the depredations and frauds of these agents. Several highly influential gentlemen connected with the Government—amongst them my highly valued friend, Judge Slunk here, Colonel Snorter, and others—have in the handsomest manner promised their aid; and I do think that we will be enabled to effect a great deal of good."

"I have not the least doubt of it," remarked Mr. Slunk, with the faintest sort of a smile; and recovering from a violent fit of coughing, from the smoke getting down his throat, he broke out with much spirit into the martial air, "Our Flag is there!"

"My humble abilities," Keen commenced, in the meekest tone, and looking still more and more serious; but he stepped short, and asked Mr. Mudge for "his papers."

Mudge put his hand in his pocket, but, not finding anything there but a piece of twine, a huge jack-knife, and an old newspaper, exclaimed, with much consternation, "Scissors! they're gone!"

"Are you sure?" asked Slunk, with great earnestness; "had you them with you last night?"

"Yes, yes," replied Mudge, with increasing confusion.

"It's very unlucky," said Slunk, shutting one eye and shaking his head, with much feeling.

"I trust the documents may yet be recovered," said Mr. Keen; "but in the mean time, my dear Mr. Mudge, your business can go on before the committee. I know enough of the case to draw up the petition."

"But the assignment—the old man's assignment to me!" exclaimed Mudge, in an agony.

"Very unfortunate!" said Keen, almost with tears in his eyes—"A very unfortunate circumstance! You must, however, make diligent search, my dear friend, and put an advertisement in the city papers. You doubtless recollect what places you visited last evening?"

"Oh! Mr. Slunk knows all about that," said Mudge, with unconcealed chagrin and uneasiness.

"Well, then, my dear sir, it is all right, and I trust the packet will be speedily recovered," said the sympathizing agent; "and, in the mean while, I shall, with your permission, go on with the case."

Mudge of course assented to this kind proposition, and, paying down Keen's fee of one hundred dollars, departed to search after the missing papers. Scarcely had his back been turned, when Slunk rose, and, quietly turning the key in the office door, silently handed a bundle of papers to his complacent friend.

"All correct, my dear sir," said Keen, very deliberately, after he had examined the packet—"all correct; you are indeed one of the most considerate men I have ever known. There is a boldness, too, about your operations, which it is impossible not to admire. Men of my poor temperament, Slunk, creep, whilst your genius dashes at once to the goal."

"Come, come; none of your gammon," said Slunk; "don't expend all your soft soap on me. Keep the assignment, and let me have the others. Don't you see you want some more coal in the stove?"

Keen then handed several papers to his honorable associate, who instantly thrust them into the stove, keeping the door of it open till he saw that the documents were entirely consumed.

"You'll now alter it as we agreed?" inquired Slunk.

"My dear sir, I am confident that it had better be in your own name," replied the other. "You were a great favorite with the worthy old gentleman, so that it will appear quite natural. Indeed, no doubt he meant to do so. You had better correct the error he made without further delay. Here are all the materials."

Slunk seemed to hesitate for a moment, but it was only for a moment; and then, seating himself at the desk, he appeared to be very intently engaged in some delicate operation on a paper before him.

"Very beautifully done!" remarked Keen, in a tone of great admiration—"Very! Couldn't have done it more neatly myself! And a very proper correction—for Benjamin Mudge read Madison Slunk. Good! excellent!"

"There!" exclaimed Slunk, with the air of a man not exactly pleased with himself, pushing the paper from him, and kicking the seat to the other end of the office.

"Softly, my dear friend," said the agent "twenty per cent.?"

"Oh! yes; aint it enough?" returned the other.

"Extremely liberal, my excellent friend—extremely handsome!" said Keen, smiling very sweetly.

"I must hurry up to the House," said Slunk. "We must kill that bill at all hazards. I'll just be in time. We lobby members, after all, do the business—eh? Good morning."

"Good morning, my dear sir; good morning!" returned Keen, with his utmost suavity of manner; and then, as he closed the door, adding, with undiminished softness, "Now I think we have got you, knowing Mr. Slunk! excellent Mr. Slunk! honorable Mr. Slunk!"

Of course, Mr. Benjamin Mudge sought in vain for his papers. As he promised, Keen brought the case before the House committee, obtained a favorable report, pressed it well in the House, and eventually, by "remunerating" nine or ten members (lawyers) for their *professional* services, succeeded in effecting the passage of the bill. The pecuniary resources of Mudge had been long quite exhausted; but by giving the hotel-keeper a draft on the Treasury, treble the amount of his bill, to be paid when his claim should be passed, he had managed to remain undisturbed in his quarters, escaping the fate of some score of poor devils, who, after living at rack and manger for a few weeks, had been turned out on the streets, shifting for the remainder of the session in some mysterious manner.

On the passage of the bill, the joy of Benjamin may be more easily imagined than described, as the novelists say. He hastened immediately to the office of Keen, whither he found his friend Slunk had preceded him.

"Well, old fellow, you've did the business at last!" said Mudge, in high spirits.

"Sir!" exclaimed the agent, with impudent coolness, whilst Slunk hummed a stave from the popular air of "Dandy Jim of Caroline."

"I say, you've did the business slap up, and I'm come to get the order for the brass," said Mudge, rather puzzled by his chilling reception.

"Really, my dear sir," returned Keen, "I am somewhat at a loss to comprehend your meaning. Pray, to what business do you refer?"

"Blast it, here's a go!" said Mudge, with unaffected indignation; "I'm come to get the order for the amount of Uncle Jake Van Waganen's claim, which I paid you to get through Congress. That's the talk!"

"Oh! now I understand you, my worthy friend," said Keen; "but don't become excited, my excellent young man. Never suffer the equanimity of your temper to be unduly disturbed. Let me entreat you"——

"Lookee here," said Mudge, interrupting him, "I don't want none of your oily gab; let's come to business. Give me the order, or by gosh"——

"None of your half laughs and purser's grins," said Slunk, smiling ironically, "give the man his jacket!"

"Stop, stop, my very worthy friend," Keen in his turn interrupted the other, gently waving his hand towards Mudge, who was now greatly excited. "I have such a horror, an instinctive horror, good Mr. Mudge, of any improper agitation, that, unless you be calm, I must most respectfully request at least your temporary absence from this office."

"Oh! thunder! whew!" exclaimed Mudge, almost choking with rage and astonishment.

"Now, Mr. Slunk, we will proceed to business, if you please," said Keen, as if entirely unconscious of the presence of Mudge.

"I say, neighbor!" resumed Mudge, making a desperate effort to command his temper, "this may be a very fine joke, a d——d good joke, ha! ha! but I want this business all squared off. I want it done right away. I've been here in this cursed hole of a place for these five months, and, d——n it, I want the money. I'm goin' out West."

"Do I understand you, sir," said Keen, with great unconcern, and not even condescending to turn towards Mr. Mudge, "do I understand you as advancing a title to any interest in the late Mr. Jacob Van Waganen's claim on the Federal Government?"

"Hell!" shouted Mudge.

"If so," continued Keen, speaking very slowly and enunciating every syllable, as was his custom, with the utmost distinctness, "if so, I would be extremely obliged to you for a sight of the legal document assigning to you an interest in the claim of that most excellent citizen the late Mr. Jacob Van Waganen? Pray, can you conveniently place your hand on the paper, Mr. Mudge?"

"Oh! blow me for a fool!" exclaimed poor Mudge; "you know I lost all my papers; but Slunk told me I did not need the assignment—that the bill would be so drawn as to make all right. Didn' you, Slunk?"

"I raythher think not, sir-ree!" replied Slunk, with great unconcern.

"No, I'm certain the Judge could not have given you so absurd an opinion," resumed Keen, though he may have said something to console you after your unfortunate loss. However, I may inform you, once for all, my dear sir, that the bill has been drawn in favor of the legal representatives of Mr. Van Waganen; and if you should be able to produce proper proof of sustaining that character, I shall be very happy to aid you to the full extent of my poor abilities. And now, sir, as my friend Judge Slunk and I have some business to transact, I will bid you good morning!"

"Used up!" exclaimed poor Mudge, in a low tone, "Papers lost, and Jim Axle, the witness, was blow'd up in the General Washington! There's nothin' but Oregonn or the Kaleforneys left for Abe now!" and in a sort of stupor he strode from the office, and, standing outside on the sidewalk, occupied himself in spelling, over and over again, the announcements, in beautiful gilt letters, with which Mr. Keen's office was ornamented, as if inspired by a vague hope that some invaluable information and advice were to be found in some corner of the capacious signboards.

"Did you hear that?" inquired Slunk of his worthy associate, as their victim left the office.

"Certainly, my dear sir, certainly," replied Keen. "It fully corroborates the information obtained from Jacksonville. *One* witness of your skill as a forger, my dear Mr. Slunk, has been removed from"——

"What do you mean?" asked Slunk, with an eagerness he vainly essayed to conceal.

"Why, the remark was very intelligible, I thought," returned the other. "I always endeavor to speak intelligibly, my dear friend; clearness is a most essential attribute of all effective speech; clearness and candor, my good friend, I do love clearness and candor of speech."

"And honesty of action!" said Slunk. "Never mind, Keen, we know each other. I will draw the money to-day. You can have your bill for services and commission all toted up, and we can settle up in the evening."

"I would prefer a final arrangement now," said Keen; "that is, if be perfectly agreeable to you, my dear sir."

"Oh! wait till the evening; but just hand me the document."

"Certainly, here it is," said Keen, handing the other a paper.

"What the —— does this mean?" angrily exclaimed Slunk, casting his eye over the paper; "why, this is an order on the Treasury, in your favor, for two-thirds of the money!"

"Precisely so, my dear friend," said Keen, leaning back in his chair, and picking his teeth with his penknife; "which now awaits the respectable signature of Madison Slunk, the excellent and worthy legal representative of the late estimable Jacob Van Waganen!"

"I'm much obliged to you," said Slunk, handing the paper to the other. "But I'm not quite so green as that blasted fool, Mudge. I've got the assignment!"

"How?" simply asked Keen, smiling as sweetly as an innocent babe.

"There, then," said Slunk, turning deathly pale, as he hastily affixed his signature to the paper; "but mark me! May"——

"Hush, hush! my excellent friend!" said Keen, in his sweetest and most playful manner, at the same time carefully folding up the paper, and then handing another to Slunk, who stood regarding him with a most diabolical scowl.

The worthy partners in crime visited the Treasury building together, and drew the money, in the shares apportioned so favorably for himself by the superior adroitness of Keen. The agent was discovered in an exuberance of spirits rather uncommon with him. Slunk maintained a dogged expression, and walked moodily by the side of his companion, apparently wrapped in no very pleasant thoughts, and never opening his mouth, except occasionally to reply with a growl to the affected pleasantry of the other, as he twitted his "dear friend" on his abstracted and gloomy appearance. Separating in front of Brown's Hotel, Slunk carelessly asked his companion if he "intended to be in the office that night?"

"Yes, my good friend," replied Keen; "I have got a troublesome case to make out, and, as I sleep there as usual, you'll find me at any hour you call. Come and take supper with me. I've got some of that 'London club' still on hand! Do come!"

* * * * * * *

About two hours after midnight, the city was alarmed by the cry of "Fire!" When the tardy engines reached the spot, the firemen found that the element had nearly spent itself, from lack of materials on which to fasten, as the building which had been consumed had been surrounded by vacant lots. It was Keen's office. Not a vestige remained of the flimsy edifice, except the stone foundations and a heap of smouldering cinders.

"Mr. Keen lives at Brown's, don't he? I reckon he aint in the city?" said one of the firemen, as they stood in little groups around the spot where the fire had finished its work of destruction.

"We've had our run for nothing!" exclaimed another, not at all pleased with the fire for going out so speedily.

"If you had come with us all the way from the Navy Yard," said another, "you might complain; but I'm cussed if we can get up a first-rate blaze now, any how you can fix it."

"My eyes, Bill," exclaimed a third, "what a rouser the old Navy Office would make!"

"Come, come! youngsters, better look after Keen's big iron safe, the salamander that he got on from York," roared out a sturdy man, who seemed to be the leader of one of the fire companies.

A number of the firemen immediately busied themselves in searching amongst the smoking ruins.

"Hallo! what's this?" shouted one of them, pointing to something which he had discovered beneath a heap of smouldering rafters.

"It looks like a dead dog!" said another, kicking the object with his heavy boot.

"Hold!" exclaimed the sturdy leader, letting the light from the lamp which he carried fall full upon what now seemed a mass of charred and smoking wearing-apparel. "Hush!" he again exclaimed. "It's a corpse!"

It was indeed all that remained of the ill-fated Keen! The features were a disgusting mass, which utterly defied recognition. But the identity of the unfortunate wretch was fully established by the gold watch, which was found in his pocket entirely uninjured.

The fire was generally regarded as the work of an incendiary, who had probably first murdered the agent. But no clew was ever obtained to a discovery of the guilty party.

Slunk, the very day after the fire, resigned his office, on the plea of ill health, and immediately disappeared from the city of Washington. A person answering his description was not long afterwards reported to have been murdered by banditti, on the route from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico.

Mudge in vain endeavored to obtain redress at the hands of the Department; for the report of the death of James Axle, the witness to his uncle's assignment, was erroneous, and a full discovery of the rascality of Keen and his accomplice was afterwards made, by means of Mr. Cheselden, an exceedingly talented and upright professional gentleman in the city. But the poor man still hangs about Washington, insisting that he will yet get all put to rights. During the sessions of Congress, he may be seen daily buzzing around the vestibule of the House, like an angry wasp about a cask of molasses. Ever on the alert, he fastens on Congressmen ere they're aware of his presence, worries them in the corridors, stings them in the Library, and is cast off at the doors of the Hall, only to stand at the lobby windows, peering in on them with the eye of a basilisk. He is their evil genius, tormenting them before their time, and tracking them out even to the privacy of their lodgings, in spite of all the lies and cunning of porters and waiters. He will not be shaken off! Kick him, cuff him, do what they will with him, his answer is, with Lucio, in Measure for Measure, "By my troth, I'll go with thee to the lane's end. Nay, I am a kind of burr. I shall stick!"

How Mudge contrives to live, is a mystery. But he certainly sleeps in the attic of Mrs. Flint's boarding-house, and somewhere he does get his grog!

GLEANINGS FROM FOREIGN PAPERS.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MINUTE HISTORY.—When the Duke of Burgundy besieged Calais, in 1436, he invented the notable project of blocking up the harbor with stone ships, and sunk six vessels filled with immense stones, which were well worked together, and cramped with lead. The experiment failed, for this reason—that the Duke had forgotten to take the tides into his calculation; so at low water the stone ships were left dry, and the people of Calais, men and women alike, amused themselves with pulling them to pieces, and hauling away the wood for fuel, to the great astonishment, the historian adds, of the Duke and his admirals. Had this story found its way into the popular histories of England, this country would have been saved the disgrace of a similar folly, and the £90,000 which were wasted upon it. But it has been the fashion of modern historians to reject all the circumstances of history, and give only a *caput mortuum* of results. That a First Lord of the Admiralty should have read Monstrelet, was not to be expected; but it might have been expected that he would have known what the rise of the tide is at Boulogne.—*Southey.*

THE FACE.—We, that is, I and he, find upon a human face, when it is old, the notched counting-stick of severe sorrows which have so rudely passed over it; and when it is young, it appears to us like a blooming flower-bed on the slope of a volcano, whose next eruption will overwhelm it with destruction. Ah! either the future or the past is written in every face, and makes us, if not melancholy, at least mild and gentle.
Richter's "Thorn Pieces."

MORAL EXAMPLE.

Her I hold
My honorable pattern; one whose mind
Appears more like a ceremonious chapel
Full of sweet music, than a thronging presence.
Webster.

BURNS.

Judge not ye, whose thoughts are fingers
Of the hands that witch the lyre—
Greenland has its mountain icebergs,
Ætna has its heart of fire;
Calculation has its plummet;
Self-control its iron rules;
Genius has its sparkling fountains;
Dulness has its stagnant pools;
Like a halcyon on the waters,
Burns's chart disdain'd a plan—
In his soarings he was heavenly,
In his sinkings he was man.—*Delta.*

MAN and the horse-radish are hottest when rubbed and grated; and the satirist is sadder than the wit, for the same reason that the ourang-outang is of a graver disposition than the ape, because his nature is more noble.—*Richter.*

ENERGY.—A man with knowledge, but without energy, is a house furnished, but not inhabited; a man with energy, but no knowledge, a house dwelt in, but unfurnished.—*Crystals from a Cavern.*

THE GOLDEN CALF.—In the olden day, the Knights of the Fleece, the Garter, and other glories, won their rank upon the battle-field—blood and strife being to them the handmaids of honor. The chivalry of the Golden Calf is mild and gentle. It splits no brain-pan, spills no blood; yet is it ever fighting. We are at the Exchange. Look at that easy, peaceful man. What a serenity is upon his cheek! What a mild lustre in his eye! How plainly is he habited! He wears the livery of simplicity and the look of peace. Yet has he in his heart the Order of the Golden Calf. He is one of Mammon's boldest heroes—a very soldier of fortune. He is now fighting—fighting valorously. He has come armed with a bran new lie—a falsehood of surpassing temper, which with wondrous quietude he lays about him, making huge gashes in the money bags of those he fights with. A good foreign lie, well finished and well mounted, is to this Knight of the Golden Calf as the sword of Faery to Orlando. With it he sometimes cuts down giant fortunes, and, after, "grinds their bones to make his bread."—*Douglas Jerrold's Clovernook.*

REIGNING SOVEREIGNS.—Of fifty-two sovereigns reigning in Europe, two have reached their 70th year—the King of Hanover, the oldest sovereign in Europe, and the King of the French. Of the other sovereigns, thirteen are between 60 and 70 years of age, fourteen from 50 to 60, eleven from 40 to 50, eight from 20 to 30, and two have not yet reached their 20th year, namely: the Queen of Spain, who is 16 years and 3 months, and the Prince of Waldeck, who is not yet 16. Of all the sovereigns, the Prince of Schaumbourg-Lippe has reigned the longest of the time, if his minority is counted. He has reigned for nearly 60 years. Two have reigned more than 40 years, equally counting their minority; four from 30 to 40 years; nine from 20 to 30 years; twenty-one from 10 to 20 years; the fifteen other sovereigns, of whom three ascended the throne during 1845, have not reigned more than 10 years.

LANDOR AND BONAPARTE.—If the life of Savage Landor was written, it would be one of the most remarkable on record. He has lived much abroad in the most eventful times in the history of the world. He witnessed the progress of the French revolution; saw Bonaparte made First Consul; saw him and his armies go out to victory; saw and conversed with the greatest of his generals, and the most remarkable men of these times and scenes. His conversation, therefore, abounds with facts and personages from his own actual knowledge, of which most other men have only read, and many of which no one has read. On the fall of Napoleon, he saw him ride, followed by one servant, into Tours, whose inhabitants hated him, and would have rejoiced to give him up to his enemies. He was disguised, but Landor recognised him in a moment. Hating and despising the man as he did, yet he never for a moment dreamed of betraying him. He, however, went close to the fallen Emperor, and, touching his arm, said, "You are not safe here; I have penetrated your disguise, and others may." "Sir," replied Bonaparte, "you are, I perceive, an Englishman; my secret is in good keeping." He mounted and rode away, wholly undiscovered by the townsmen.—*Wm. Howitt's Homes and Haunts of the British Poets.*

A PHILOLOGIST AT FAULT.—A German, whose colloquial English had been rather neglected, having obtained an interview with an English lady, opened his business (whatever it might be) thus: "High-born madam, since your husband have kicked de bucket"—"Sir!" interrupted the lady, astonished and displeased. "Oh, pardon!—nine, ten thousand pardon! Now, I make new beginning—quite oder beginning. Madam, since your husband has cut his stick" —— It may be supposed that this did not mend matters; and, reading that in the lady's countenance, the German drew out an octavo dictionary, and said, perspiring with shame at having a second time missed fire: "Madam, since your husband have gone to kingdom come" —— This he said beseechingly; but the lady was past propitiation by this time, and rapidly moved towards the door. Things had now reached a crisis; and, if something were not done quickly, the game was up. Now, therefore, taking a last hurried look at his dictionary, the German flew after the lady, crying out in a voice of despair, "Madam, since your husband, your most respected husband, have hopped de twig" —— This was his sheet-anchor; and, as this also *came home*, of course the poor man was totally wrecked. It turned out that the dictionary he had used, (Arnold's, we think,) a work of a hundred years back, and, from mere ignorance, giving slang translations from Tom Brown, L'Estrange, and other jocular writers, had put down the verb *sterben* (to die) with the following worshipful series of equivalents—1. To kick the bucket; 2. To cut one's stick; 3. To go to kingdom come; 4. To hop the twig.—*Blackwood's Magazine.*

REMARKABLE MEMORY.—The *Morning Herald*, of Sydney, reports a rather amusing scene which occurred in the supreme court of that place during a trial for robbery. For the prisoner an *alibi* was pleaded. At the time of the robbery, he was in his own hut, listening to the recital of Horace Walpole's "Old English Baron," which a man named Lane had, with other novels, committed to memory; Lane was two hours and a half repeating the tale. This statement seemed so incredible, that the Attorney General, for the prosecution, asked Lane if he really meant to assert that he could occupy two hours and a half with his recitation? "I could," replied the witness; "and I will, if you please." "We'll have a page or two," said the Attorney General; and to the great surprise not less of the learned gentleman than of the court and auditory, the witness, after a preparatory hem! commenced: "In the time of King Henry, when the Duke Humphrey returned from the wars in the Holy Land, where he had been sojourning for a number of years, there lived"—and so he went on for several minutes, in a tone and manner which showed that he knew every word in the book; until he was stopped by the Attorney General, who confessed that he was satisfied. But the counsel for the defence was not; doubt had been cast upon Lane's veracity, and he should be allowed to prove it, with the *time* occupied in the recitation, by speaking the whole novel! The Chief Justice was in great consternation at this, and exclaimed, "But you do not expect me to take it down?" At last the matter was compromised, the man of memory giving the concluding portions of the story. As a consequence, the prisoner was acquitted.

AMERICAN STATESMEN, DRAWN BY A LADY.—A Mrs. Sarah Mytton Maury, wife of a Liverpool merchant, has produced a book called *The Statesmen of America*. She ought to have written upon lily leaves with perfumed ink; all in her pages being so lovely, pure, and odoriferous. Never before were the rougher sex so pelted with sugar plums—so deluged with rose water. We give (from the *Athenæum*) a sample of the style of the book. It is pure lollipop: "The Hon. William H. Haywood (says Mrs. Maury) is an admirable specimen, *among many*, of that Chesterfield refinement and *tact* which are so frequently supposed by Europeans to have as yet no existence in America." "The American forehead is almost always well-formed, and that of Mr. Lawrence particularly well." *First chop*, Sam Slick would say! Mr. Benton's "neck and chest are of very large proportions." Mr. Van Buren's conversation is "like a strain of varied music—now grave, now gay, now learned, now simple; generally now and original, but sometimes blending in its harmonies the chords of other minstrels"—magical, in short. When she revisits America, Mrs. Maury means to "ask permission" of the Hon. R. C. Winthrop "to try how becomingly he would look in a starched lace ruffle, such as adorns the neck of the Pilgrim Governor"—with an eye to *tableaux* on Thanksgiving Day! The Hon. Roger B. Taney seems entirely free from prejudice! The Hon. J. McLean always bowed to the English lady, with the French-grandmother steps, from the bench! The Hon. D. Webster "once complimented" her "on her good taste and devotion to the law." The Hon. John Q. Adams thinks little of the Venus de Medicis! The Hon. C. J. Ingersoll (like the S. S. of the Streatham *coterie*) weeps with small invitation; and Mrs. Maury "has sometimes invented a pathetic story, that she might see" it. She has also seen "men of firm and manly minds weep at the recollection of Mr. Clay's defeat;" and she drew something like a tear from the Hon. J. C. Calhoun, by retailing to him the praises of "Mr. Crittenden, Mr. Winthrop, Mr. Benton," and Him of the Glove, "Mr. Hannegan." The Hon. Henry Clay complained to her that the melody "of his voice was changed," and "its music gone!" and in church he had "almost always in his hand a full-blown rose with a short stem, and frequently addressed himself to its perfumed cup!" Mrs. Maury, be it understood, is a devout believer in the patriarchal loveliness of slavery, and thinks all abolitionists "fanatics—vainglorious—hollow." This is as it should be. Sugar for Senators and whips for slaves!

SOUTHERN SENTIMENT.

From the Norfolk and Portsmouth (Va.) Herald, Jan. 25, 1847.

DISCUSSION OF SLAVERY IN VIRGINIA.

MESSRS. EDITORS: I regret that you consider a discussion of the question of slavery injudicious, for I differ with you in opinion. If a title to property be questioned before a proper tribunal, it would not answer for the holder thereof simply to assert it to be indisputable, and to declare that it should not be investigated. He must produce record proof of the validity of his title, or incur the risk of ejectment.

Thus it is with slavery; and Congress is the tribunal which possesses the power, however justly we may deny the constitutional right, to legislate upon it. It is for the very reason that men may *vote* understandingly upon this momentous subject, that it should be now thoroughly discussed—for the crisis is at hand.

All Abolitionists are not fanatic zealots—among them are many well meaning but misguided men. Misguided, because, assuming an abstract proposition as a basis, they have been taught to draw deductions entirely at variance with the facts, which are studiously concealed from them. They are led to anticipate stupendous results from the action of enthusiastic associations, forcing public opinion into rapid and straitened currents, and overwhelming every barrier in its resistless progress. By an agency independent of and transcending all law, they expect, through a chain of agitating convulsions, to effect a certain social revolution, which is to consummate the happiness of the human race, by abolishing every vestige of slavery, and introducing a happy millennium of universal equality. But let us not ridicule this fanaticism, as too wild and destructive in its character to engage the attention of reflecting men. It has its attractive as well as its dark aspect; it is to all appearance a mingling of heaven and earth. There is widely disseminated among us, particularly in the Northern and Eastern States, a peculiarly of mental character, in which a strong native sentiment of religion is blended with a powerful tendency to skepticism and infidelity. In the delirium of hope, these men divert all those aspirations, which properly appertain to a future state, towards speculations upon the perfectibility of man on earth. Unbelievers of ardent and imaginative temperaments are very prone to fall into this fanatic trance; for, when incredulity draws an impenetrable veil over the future, it is perfectly natural that men should become the dupes of these gross delusions. But I am wandering from the subject, and needlessly trespassing upon your time. My explanation for having troubled you should be brief.

Although a native of this place, where the negro race is unquestionably better treated than in any part of the globe I have visited, (and my life has been a wandering one,) yet the comparative abject condition of the slave led me early to inquire, can such an institution be consonant with the benignant spirit of Christianity? We are so much influenced by the evidence of the senses, that I will confess it was almost with self-reproach that I undertook to examine the question. I accused myself of allowing a narrow, sectional feeling to prevent me from admitting the truth of Montesquieu's assertion—that "slavery is in its own nature bad—neither useful to the master nor to the slave." After strict investigation, however, I became convinced that slavery is coeval with society, is necessary for its formation and growth, and was, in the primitive ages, a natural condition of a large portion of the human family; that it is universal, and has existed in all ages; that it is neither prohibited by the moral nor the divine law; that Christianity alone, by its exalting influence and by its peaceful and gradual operations, can abolish it; and that its sudden abolition by any people, either from a fanatical perversion of the mild principles of Christianity, or by an intemperate agency, must necessarily be attended with frightful social and political revulsions, destructive alike to the bond and the free.

It was to explain the process by which I arrived at this conviction, that I asked the favor of your columns. I regret that you do not concur with me—for, although your columns are courteously tendered, I cannot ask another to do that which is distasteful.

In conclusion permit me say, that it is not the true policy of the South to object to the discussion of the topic of slavery, alarming though it may *seem*, and exciting though it be, but it should manfully resist its slaves being made a party to the controversy. It should pertinaciously combat against the artificial formation of a spurious public opinion, through the agency of association upon those by whom the question of slavery, that of the perpetuity of the Union, is to be determined. The South should no longer shrink from the encounter. In the words of Milton, "truth is strong, next to the Almighty," and she will need "no policies, no stratagems, to make her victorious." Truth, like the mighty eagle, soars with a steady flight and unblenching gaze into the higher heavens, while the timid companions of her early flight, dismayed and paralyzed by apprehension, can never penetrate those abysses of light in which she floats in solitude, undazzled and unalarmed.

L.

From the Loudoun (Va.) Chronicle.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

We have received the *third* number only of this new weekly journal, recently commenced at the city of Washington. We had previously heard much of the projected establishment of an *Abolition* paper at Washington; but as it is not our custom to circulate anonymous reports, nor to join in every hue and cry that is raised, we refrained from making any comment until possessed of accurate information.

The number before us does not in any manner unfold a special and definite purpose, though its tone and tenor may be safely inferred. As a news, miscellaneous, and literary journal, it is one of the best conducted in the country. The selections are skilfully made, the contributions well written, and the editorial articles pithy, sprightly, able, and intelligent; nor do we regard them as at all exceptionable on the delicate subject of slavery itself. We have no objection to the honest expression of opinions on this or any other subject, fearing neither the influence thereof nor the ire of the soulless bipeds who may be offended by it. We will say, further, that on the subjects of "State sovereignty," and the "annexation" of States without the consent of their people, we regard the editor's positions as invincible. If the abatement of slavery, or to prevent "the extension of the area of *slavery*," be the purpose aimed at, the means adopted in the publication of articles as argumentative, respectful, and well tempered as these will be highly conducive to that end.

From the Georgetown (Ky.) Herald.

SLAVERY IN KENTUCKY.

MR. FRENCH: In your paper of February 24, is an article from the *Register*, over the signature of "Boone," which you have endorsed, by giving it a place in your columns. I know editors are not responsible for every sentiment contained in a selected article; for often they have to take a large quantity of *chaff* with a few grains of wheat. With the principles of the article generally I find no fault. But it does seem to me that "Boone" commits the very offence he so much deprecated in others. He begs off from the discussion of slavery, "not because he has any fears of the Abolitionists—no, no; but he deprecates the agitation of the subject, on account of its inflammatory character," &c., and at the same moment pours out a strain of bitter invective against the *Abolitionists* and their "political half-*brothers*, the Gradual Emancipationists," with a promise to show, in a succeeding number, that they are very nearly identical! Yet he would not have the subject of slavery agitated! It is highly "inflammatory!" So much so, indeed, that if we regard his communication as at all symptomatic, there is danger of spontaneous combustion! I stop not to inquire into the difference that exists between an *Abolitionist* and an *Emancipationist*. A distinguished clergyman of South Carolina has said, "it is not worth while to split the hair!" so slight did he esteem it. And surely a clergyman ought to know! And a whole convocation of clerical and lay delegates recently adopted a report, setting forth that *they* could make *no distinction* between *Abolitionists* and *anti-slavery men!* And is not the church infallible? Are not her officers too well instructed to put forth to the world a solemn declaration, on a matter involving the dearest interests of man, that is not true to the letter? There may be some reprobates who will not allow a convocation of clerical and lay delegates to be free from error, and will therefore exercise the right of private judgment, that troubler of societies' repose. Well, if they are not satisfied with the decision, I know of no remedy but the inquisitorial. SHALL WE TRY THAT?

"Boone" has received the decision in good faith, and now deprecates a discussion at the very moment he, without provocation, begins it! Is there agitation only when anti-slavery men speak? The thrown ball must rebound, no matter whence it comes. No matter from what point of the compass the gale sweeps down upon the ocean, her waters must yield to the touch, and be agitated to their profoundest depths. So it matters not at what point you touch slavery, you agitate it! If it is one of "those delicate subjects which is not to be named in polite circles," be it so. And let those who would avoid a controversy be careful not to provoke it; for I clearly foresee that the constant efforts which are put forth to crush every thought on this subject which is disagreeable to a supposed majority, must result in the production of antagonistic efforts. Men will not long submit in silence to reproach and denunciation, but turn in self-defence, and mete out the measure which has been meted out to them. The discussion of slavery is upon us inevitably; there is no dodging it; we might as well attempt to avoid the light of Heaven. It connects in some way with almost every question that is discussed in Congress. It is discussed here among ourselves, privately and publicly, and, though highly inflammatory, it is not necessarily so. Let every man keep cool, and honestly seek for the truth, maintaining the right, and not seeking to triumph at the expense of either *truth* or *charity*. For one, I have no desire to see the question of slavery mixed in with others that properly belong to the Conventionists, and hence my regret at the position assumed by "Boone." I seek no controversy with him or any other gentleman, and have not written with any such design, but to suggest an amendment in the mode of conducting the convention campaign.

CLARKE.

From the New York Evangelist.

OPINIONS OF SLAVERY AT THE SOUTH.

We have received a letter from a clergyman in one of the most remote and inaccessible of the slave States, whose well-known name, if we were permitted to publish it, would add weight and impressiveness to what he says, which we cannot deny ourselves the gratification of presenting to those who are waiting for the dawn of right feelings and views on this subject at the South. That there is an under current of feeling at the South, such as this letter discloses, is as unquestionable as it is cheering:

"You know the self-will of despotism, and the forlorn hope of a poor disciple of Christ in endeavoring to turn it from its current. We may talk of Turkish despotism as we please; it is not more dictatorial, obstinate, zealous, and tyrannical, than the despotism of *free, enlightened, Christian slavery!!* Disguise it as you will, it is a *monster*. Some very good, deluded men (and I, too, once) have apologized for it; but, after all, it is, and was, and ever will be, a sin, condemned by God, abhorred by saints, and shunned by holy men. The circumstances of my family seem to require that I should remain South, though sometimes I almost resolve to leave this region, for fear the smothered, heaving volcano may break forth, and bury in ruin this otherwise lovely land. But there are some bright streaks of hope. The influences of religion are gaining ground, and, as they gain ground, masters treat their servants better in dress, and grant them more Christian privileges. And this is not all: owners begin to feel that slavery is a *sin*. A few wicked men (slaveholders) have said to me, at different times, that they did not see what business Christians had to come here and buy plantations and negroes—intimating that there is, in their estimation, a glaring inconsistency between religion and slavery. They justify themselves in slavery, because they do not profess to obey the Bible. They say a man cannot do to others as he would that they should do to him, and hold slaves. But, in them, this is only one among all their other sins. Strange reasoning, but quite as logical as the reasoning of professors of religion, in excusing and justifying their continuance in sin. One thing is evident—the sin of slavery is felt more and more. This should encourage Christians to pray, with fresh earnestness and strength, that God may pour out upon us a spirit of judgment, of a spirit of burning, that that evil may be speedily removed."

From the Richmond (Va.) Enquirer, Nov. 13, 1846.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

It is a melancholy fact, that negroes have become the only reliable staple of the tobacco-growing sections of Virginia—*the only reliable means of liquidating debts, foreign and domestic.* They are sold here by hundreds, under the hammer of the auctioneer. The domestic cannot compete with the Southwestern demand for them, for the plain reason, that the tobacco grower cannot make one-half of one per cent. per annum upon slave labor, whilst the cotton and sugar planters make, perhaps, from fifteen to twenty per cent.

There is in this undeniable statement of facts much matter for serious, if not melancholy, reflection. But it is not my purpose to enlarge upon this subject. My principal object is, to call the attention of the people of Virginia to the foul game which some of the Southern banks are playing upon us. *Our negroes are going by hundreds, yea, thousands, to the Southwest;* and what are we getting in return for them? Look around you, and see, fellow-citizens! We are trading off our slaves, whom we have nurtured through infancy; we are parting with them at a time of life when they have become able to help us "work for a living," and receiving as compensation for them a precarious paper currency, issued by the North Carolina and South Carolina banks!

The Enquirer is the leading Democratic paper of Virginia.

G. B. Vashon.—This gentleman graduated at Oberlin Collegiate Institute some three years since, with much honor. He is the son of a very respectable colored man of Pittsburgh. He is a very good linguist—familiar with many of the ancient as well as modern languages. He has natural talents of a high order, and his moral character is unimpeachable. When at Oberlin, we remember hearing him deliver an address full of burning eloquence, and one which made a deep and lasting impression upon us and upon the audience.

After leaving college, he studied law in the office of the Hon. Walter Forward, and, when duly qualified, applied for permission to practice, but was refused. Why? Not because he was not every way qualified, but for the want of a change in *color* of his skin. If God had painted him *white*, he would have been admitted.

There are many who sneer at colored people because they are so ignorant; at the same time, they take away from them the keys of knowledge, and shut up every avenue to advancement. The colored people have rights; why not have learned men of their own kindred to vindicate them? We first degrade them, then taunt them with their degradation, and then bind them with fetters, that they never may rise.—*Pittsburgh Democrat.*

☞ The *Bangor Gazette* has the following excellent suggestions, which we hope will not pass unnoticed by our corresponding associate:

"*William Leggett.*—This number closes the very interesting biographical tribute to the memory of that great man, from the pen of Whittier. We cannot doubt it has been read and studied by Liberty men. Such notices should be thrown into the tract form, and sown broadcast over the land. Will not Whittier collect the materials for a similar notice of ANTHONY BENEZET? and another of THOMAS GRIMKE? and a fuller one than has yet appeared of that brave and noble spirit, ROGERS, of the Granite State? Whittier's poetry we admire, but not less do we love these living sketches of the mighty dead. Our children want—yes, we want them, to nerve us on in the thickening conflict, for its days of darkness will yet be many."

"*Noble Boy.*—One of the committee appointed to collect subscriptions for the relief of Ireland informs us of a noble act of generosity. Joseph Klemm, a boy five years old, son of O. Klemm, Esq., of this city, on hearing his mother read one of the distressing and heart-rending accounts from that unhappy country, immediately exclaimed, 'Mother, give me my money box, and I will carry my money to Mr. ——, to be sent to feed and clothe the little boys in Ireland.' The noble boy delivered the whole of his little fund, one hundred and three cents, and when thanked for his liberality, and told how much good the money he gave might do, the sparkling eye showed the workings of a generous heart. Such acts deserve to be noticed and commended."—*Cleveland Herald.*

Our cotemporary of the *Advertiser* (Cincinnati) appends to this a moral, which would be more pertinent to some grown folk:

"I was by when this anecdote was read in the presence of a little boy of six years of age. His flushed cheek and lively eye attested his sympathy. 'Pa,' said he, 'I will give what is in my money box, too, for the little boys in Ireland, *if you will put it in the papers.*'"

Acknowledgment to Gerrit Smith.—The colored citizens of Rochester, New York, held a meeting, recently, for the purpose of expressing their sense of obligation to Hon. Gerrit Smith, for his beneficence in giving farms freely to many of their number in Monroe county; and it was unanimously resolved that the following letter be adopted and transmitted to Mr. Smith, in acknowledgment of his kindness:

"ROCHESTER, *March* 11, 1847.

"*To Hon. Gerrit Smith:*

"DEAR SIR: The colored people of the city of Rochester and the county of Monroe, who have participated in your bounty in the gift of farms, through the agency of Samuel D. Porter, Esq., take this method of expressing to you our thanks, and to assure you of the only return in our power to make—our best wishes and prayers for your continued welfare and happiness. It is the design of many of us soon to take possession of the farms conferred by your bounty, and to endeavor by industry to earn an honest livelihood—as the best testimonial in our power to offer, of your bounty and continued kindness to our people."

For the National Era.

THE MOTHER.

BY MISS ALICE CAREY.

A king, whose wisdom, much renowned of old,
Brightened his palace like a star of gold,
Sat in his hall of judgment, firm, yet mild,
When thither came two women with a child.

'Tis mine, O king! 'tis mine, the mother cries;
Nay, said the other, thou hut speakest lies!
The child is mine, and in my bosom lay,
When this false woman stole it thence away.

Then said the king, Let each be reconciled;
Bring in the sword; divide the living child!
And she whose child it was not, spake again,
Saying, Righteous judgment! straightway be it slain!
Nay, said the other, all I have I'll give,
To the last farthing, so the child may live!

And the king said, in accent sweetly mild,
This woman is the mother of the child!
So shall it scatheless from the ordeal part,
Rock'd by the beating of her faithful heart.

WILLIAM BIRNEY, Cincinnati, Ohio, *Attorney at Law, and Commissioner to take Depositions and Acknowledgments of Deeds for the States of Vermont and Connecticut*, offers his services for the collection of claims in the Federal and State courts of Ohio, and in the courts of Hamilton county. Office on Eighth street, two doors west of Main, opposite the Methodist Book concern. Jan. 7.

WILLIAM B. JARVIS, Jun., *Attorney and Counsellor at Law*, Columbus, Ohio. Office two doors north of American Hotel.
Business connected with the profession, of all kinds, punctually attended to. Jan. 28.

SPENCER & NORTH, *Attorneys and Counsellors at Law*, Syracuse, New York.
Office, Standard Buildings. ISRAEL S. SPENCER.
Jan. 28.—tf JOHN W. NORTH.

W. H. PETTIT, Attorney and Counsellor at Law, and Solicitor and Counsellor in Chancery, and General Land Agent, Milwaukie, Wisconsin.
☞ All professional business promptly attended to.
Feb. 4.—6t*

JOHN JOLLIFFE, *Attorney and Counsellor at Law.* Office on the east side of Main, between Third and Fourth streets, Cincinnati, Ohio. Collections carefully attended to.
Refer to Thomas H. Minor, Dr. Dr. G. Bailey, Neff & Brother. T. Kirby, Esq., Blachly & Simpson, C. Donaldson & Co., Cincinnati; Hon. J. W. Price, Hon. J. J. McDowell, Hillsborough, Ohio; A. W. Fagin, St. Louis; J. J. Coombs, Gallipolis; N. Barrier, Esq., West Union, Ohio; Dr. A. Brower, Lawrenceburg, Indiana; S. Galloway, Columbus, Ohio; Col. J. Taylor, Newport, Kentucky; Gen. R. Collins, Maysville, Kentucky.
Jan. 7.

STANLEY MATTHEWS, *Attorney and Counsellor at Law*, Cincinnati. Office on Main street, below Columbia, over the office of the Washington Insurance Co. Jan. 7.

WORTHINGTON G. SNETHEN, (late Solicitor of the General Land Office,) *Attorney and Counsellor at Law*, Washington, D. C., practices in the Supreme Court of the United States, and in the courts of Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia; and acts as Agent for persons having business with Congress, the War, Treasury, Navy, and General Post Office Departments, the General Land Office, Pension Office, Office of Indian Affairs, Patent Office, &c.
Feb. 11.—4t

FOREIGN PERIODICALS.—
REPUBLICATION OF
THE LONDON QUARTERLY REVIEW,
THE EDINBURGH REVIEW,
THE NORTH BRITISH REVIEW,
THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW, and
BLACKWOOD'S EDINB'GH MAGAZINE.

The above Periodicals are reprinted in New York, immediately on their arrival by the British steamers, in a beautiful clear type, on fine white paper, and are faithful copies of the originals—*Blackwood's Magazine* being an exact fac-simile of the Edinburgh edition.

The widespread fame of these splendid Periodicals renders it needless to say much in their praise. As literary organs, they stand far in advance of any works of a similar stamp now published, while the political complexion of each is marked by a dignity, candor, and forbearance, not often found in works of a party character.

They embrace the views of the three great parties in England—Whig, Tory, and Radical. "Blackwood" and the "London Quarterly" are Tory, the "Edinburgh Review" Whig, and the "Westminster" Radical. The "North British" is of a more religious cast, being under the editorial supervision of the Rev. Dr. Chalmers, Edinburgh, and Sir David Brewster, and representing more particularly the Free Church movement in Scotland.

The prices of the *Reprints* are less than one-third of those of the foreign copies, and, while they are equally well got up, they afford all that advantage to the *American* over the *English* reader.

TERMS.

PAYMENT TO BE MADE IN ADVANCE.

For any one of the four Reviews,	$3.00	per annum.
For any two of the Reviews,	5.00	do.
For any three of the Reviews,	7.00	do.
For all four of the Reviews,	8.00	do.
For Blackwood's Magazine,	3.00	do.
For Blackwood and the four Reviews	10.00	do.

CLUBBING.

Four copies of all or any of the above works will be sent to one address, on payment of the regular subscription for three, the fourth copy being gratis.

☞ Remittances and communications must be made in all cases without expense to the publishers. The former may always be done through a postmaster, by handing him the amount to be remitted, taking his receipt, and forwarding the receipt by mail, post paid; or the money may be enclosed in a letter, postpaid, directed to the publishers.

N. B. The postage on all these Periodicals is reduced by the late post-office law to about *one-third the former rates*, making a very important saving in the expense to mail subscribers.

In most of the large Cities and Towns lying on the principal railroad and steamboat routes in the United States, these periodicals will be delivered FREE OF POSTAGE.

LEONARD SCOTT & CO., Publishers,
Jan. 7.—6m 112 Fulton street, New York.

TYPE AND PRINTERS' MATERIALS.—The subscriber has taken the Type Foundry lately occupied by Messrs. Cockcroft & Overend, No. 59 Gold street, in the city of New York, and will attend to all orders he may receive with punctuality and despatch. All the type manufactured by the subscriber will be *hand cast*, and of good metal and finish; and he will furnish all kinds of Printers' Materials of the best quality, at the usual prices.

Mr. J. A. T. Overend (late of the firm of Cockcroft & Overend) has been employed to superintend the manufacturing department for the subscriber.

Old type will be received in payment on the usual terms.
Jan. 7 ROBERT TAYLOR.

C. FOSTER & CO.—To *Printers throughout the United States:* CHARLES FOSTER, late Foreman of the Cincinnati Type Foundry, and the inventor and builder of the press called *Foster's Power Press*, now used by the Cincinnati Atlas, the Enquirer, Kendall & Barnard; also, the Frankfort Commonwealth, the Indiana State Journal, Cutler & Chamberlin, formerly State printers, Indiana, &c.; also, the press lately used to print Cassius M. Clay's paper, Lexington, Kentucky—would inform printers in the Western States and elsewhere, that, after an experience of fourteen years, he has, in connection with *Bevan, Scott, & Co.*, in the city of Cincinnati, established the manufactory of Power Presses, (being the only one west of the mountains,) Hand Presses, the Washington, Smith, and Franklin Presses, of all sizes; also, Chases, Composing Sticks, Brass Rule, Type Cases, Galleys, Card, Job, and Embossing Presses, Printers' and Bookbinders' Materials of all kinds. We will also furnish Printers' Ink, Cuts, Rules, fancy Job Type; also, Types for Newspapers, Book and Job Types, from William Hagar's Type Foundry, New York; and also Western Type, manufactured in Cincinnati.

All orders directed to Foster & Co., corner of Seventh and Smith streets, or to Shepard & Co., No. 11 Columbia street, east of Main, Cincinnati, Ohio, will receive prompt attention.
C. FOSTER & CO.

P. S. The subscribers will also furnish Castings, Steam Engines, Mill Works, Horse Powers, Threshing Machines, Screws for Hay, Lard, Tobacco, &c.; also, Straub's Patent Portable Corn and Flouring Mills, Corn Crushers and Shellers, Clark's Patent Smut Machine, with any other Machinery, built to order, on reasonable terms. Jan. 7.

MOUNT PLEASANT BOARDING SCHOOL, *Amherst, Massachusetts;* Rev. J. A. NASH, A. M., *Principal.*
This is a select family school, possessing every advantage of location, and adapted to the care and instruction of boys from eight years of age and upward, till thoroughly prepared for college or business. The terms, for board, tuition, washing, mending, fuel, and lights, are $160 per year, payable semi-annually in advance. The summer term will commence on Wednesday, the 4th of May, and continue till the 1st of October. Circulars, with numerous references and a more detailed account of the school, will be forwarded, on application to the Principal.
The following is a report of President Hitchcock, Professor Tyler, and Rev. A. M. Colton, at a late examination:
"The subscribers, having been requested by the Rev. Mr. Nash to be present, as a committee, at the recent semi-annual examination of the Mount Pleasant Family School, wish to be understood as using no formal or unmeaning language when we express our high gratification at what we have seen and learned of the instruction and government of the school, and of its internal arrangements. The instruction in the mathematics and the Latin and Greek languages is accurate and thorough. The pupil is made to understand the principles, while he is required to be familiar with the details. Parents who wish their sons to be well fitted for college may intrust them to Mr. Nash, with the assurance that half their college course will not have to be spent in learning what ought to have been mastered in the preparatory school, or, worse still, laboriously unlearning the mistakes and errors they have imbibed from their early teachers.
"We are happy to observe that good reading is deemed a prime accomplishment at Mount Pleasant; and the old-fashioned practice of spelling, quite obsolete in some schools, is not only retained, but receives the prominence it deserves. We cannot refrain, also, from expressing our gratification with the interest and success of the school, the entire school, in the cultivation of vocal music—an art which, whether from its immediate influence on the minds and hearts of the pupils, or its value as a permanent source for the improvement and embellishment of life, is worthy of the place it held in the education of the ancients, and is beginning to hold again in some of the schools of Europe and our own country.
"We should not do justice to our own convictions, or to the merits of the school, did we not advert to the domestic arrangements, and declare our belief that it is, what it purports to be, a family school, in which the sacred sentiments of home and fireside are cherished, and the inestimable benefits of personal supervision and influence, of parental authority and affection, are secured to as great an extent as they well can be secured anywhere else than under the parental roof. We have great confidence in the scholarship, and the sterling Christian character of the Principal; we see in him the high aims and disinterested devotedness that befit the teacher; and we recommend the school with entire confidence to the patronage of an enlightened Christian public.
"EDWARD HITCHCOCK.
"WILLIAM S. TYLER.
"A. M. COLTON.
March 25.

FREE PRODUCE STORE, Wholesale and Retail, northwest corner of Fifth and Cherry streets, Philadelphia, (late Joel Fisher's.) The subscriber, having purchased the stock of Dry Goods and Groceries, in addition to that purchased of Joel Fisher, all of which may be relied on as the product of *Free Labor*, now offers them for sale at the above place. He respectfully invites the patronage of those who give a preference to such goods, and of his friends and the public generally. Being the wholesale and retail agent of the Free Produce Association of Friends, and the retail agent of the American Free Produce Association, for the sale of the cotton goods manufactured by those associations, he will be prepared to furnish a greater variety of Dry Goods than has heretofore been offered.
March 4.—1m GEORGE W. TAYLOR.

MORRIS HOUSE, *Temperance Hotel*, 188 *Chestnut st., south side, between Seventh and Eighth streets, Philadelphia.* This establishment offers accommodations for Ladies and Gentlemen who are friends of the cause of Temperance, and like to feel the same quiet when abroad as at home. Travellers accommodated for a single night, and breakfast in time for the morning lines, at moderate charges. Transient board at $1.25 per day. Warm and cold baths in the house.
☞ Sons of Temperance can obtain all the information they may require, at the Morris House, respecting the meeting of the Divisions in Philadelphia.
March 11.—2m T. FLETCHER, Proprietor.

BIRNEY & BROTHER, *Wholesale and Retail Druggists, and Dealers in Paints, Oils, Varnishes, and Dye Stuffs*, corner of Lower Market and Sycamore streets, Cincinnati, O.
The above articles are of the best quality, and may be had at reasonable rates. Physicians and country merchants are invited to call and examine for themselves. Cash paid for Ginseng, Beeswax, Flaxseed, &c. D. BIRNEY.
Jan. 7. D. B. BIRNEY.

LINE OF PACKETS BETWEEN PHILADELPHIA AND LIVERPOOL.—To sail from Philadelphia the 25th of every month, and from Liverpool the 12th of every month.
From Philadelphia to Liverpool.
Thomas P. Cope, Capt. F. H. Miercken—February 25, June 25, October 25.
Saranak, (new,) Capt. E. Turley—March 25, July 25, November 25.
Susquehanna, Capt. A. Turley—April 25, August 25, December 25.
Wyoming, (new,) Capt. J. W. Miercken—May 25, September 25, January 25.
From Liverpool to Philadelphia.
Saranak, (new,) Capt. E. Turley—January 12, May 12, September 12.
Susquehanna, Capt. A. Turley—February 12, June 12, October 12.
Wyoming, (new,) Capt. J. W. Miercken—March 12, July 12, November 12.
Thomas P. Cope, Capt. F. H. Miercken—April 12, August 12, December 12.
☞ These are first class Philadelphia built ships, having spacious and elegant cabins, and combining every quality to render them safe and expeditious conveyances. They are abundantly supplied with stores of the best kind, and sail punctually, taking advantage of the tow and ice boats on the Delaware.
Passage to Liverpool, $80; to Philadelphia, $30—without wines. H. & A. COPE & CO., Philadelphia.
Jan. 7. BROWN, SHIPLEY & CO., Liverpool.

IMPROVED LARD OIL.—Improved No. 1 Lard Oil, warranted to burn equal to sperm. It being manufactured without acids, and the gum extracted, lamps are neither crusted nor machinery corroded in using it. It has been well tested on the Ohio, the Lakes, and some of the Atlantic cities. Orders received from all parts of the United States and the British Provinces, and executed in any quantity, in strong barrels and half barrels. For sale by
THOMAS EMERY, Lard Oil Manufacturer,
Jan. 7. No. 33 Water street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

RAWDON, WRIGHT, & HATCH, *Bank Note Engravers and Printers*, Corner of Fourth and Main streets, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Bank Notes, Bonds, Bills of Exchange, Drafts, Bill Heads, Cards, Seals, &c., &c., engraved in a superior style and at the shortest notice.
This office has been established in this city for the past five years, and during that time has accumulated a stock of Dies, for the execution of Bank Note and similar work, unsurpassed for variety, beauty, and number.
All work intrusted to this office will be done in Cincinnati, and not in New York or any other Eastern city, thereby saving time in transportation.
This office is under the immediate supervision of GEORGE T. JONES, a practical Engraver, who has been in their employ the last thirteen years.
Portraits, Landscapes, and similar works, will be attended to, and executed in the first style of the art.
N. B. On hand, 75,000 sheets of superior Bank Note Paper, of various tints. Jan. 7.

☞ Will the papers friendly to freedom please give the following advertisement an insertion, and oblige
BELA MARSH.

UNCONSTITUTIONALITY OF SLAVERY, by *Lysander Spooner;* published by BELA MARSH, and for sale at 25 Cornhill, Boston, and at the ANTI-SLAVERY DEPOSITORY, No. 5 Spruce street, New York. Price 25 cents. Postage on the book for any distance is but 6 cents. A person remitting $1, post paid, can have four copies sent by mail. A liberal discount will be made to booksellers and agents who buy to sell again.
☞ Will the publishers of Anti-Slavery papers please to keep a supply on hand for sale?

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Mr. Garrison, disagreeing to the conclusions on the ground that the words of the Constitution do not fully express the intentions of its authors, yet says: "His logic may be faultless, as a merely logical effort. We admit Mr. Spooner's reasoning to be ingenious—perhaps, as an effort of logic, unanswerable. It impresses us as the production of a mind equally honest and acute. Its ability, and the importance of the subject on which it treats, will doubtless secure for it a wide circulation and a careful perusal."
Mr. Joshua Leavitt says: "It is unanswerable. There will never be an honest attempt to answer it. Neither priest nor politician, lawyer nor judge, will ever dare undertake to answer that iron-linked chain of argument which runs straight through the book, from beginning to end."
Mr. Gerrit Smith, in a letter to the Liberty Press, (Utica,) says: "It is admirable. I warmly commend it to you and your readers. High as were my opinions of his ability, they are higher now that I have read his argument in favor of the position that there is no legal or constitutional slavery in this nation."
Mr. N. P. Rogers, agreeing with some of its positions, and disagreeing with others, says: "It is a splendid essay. If the talent laid out in it were laid out at the bar, it would make the author distinguished and rich. This essay should give the author a name at the Boston bar. It will at the bar of posterity."
Samuel E. Sewall, Esq., says: "It merits general attention, not merely from the importance of the subject, but from the masterly manner in which it is handled. It is a work which overflows with thought. We regard it as a grand arsenal of legal weapons, to be used in the great contest between Liberty and Slavery. I hope it will receive the widest circulation."
J. Fulton, jun., (Penn.) says: "Now that I have read it, I feel bound to say that it is the most clear and luminous production that I have ever read on the subject. It begins without a line of preface, and ends without a word of apology. It is a solid mass of the most brilliant argument, unbroken, as it seems to me, by a single flaw, and bears down all before it; a thing which has preceded it on the subject. Let every friend of the slave read the work without delay. I believe it is destined to give a new phase to our cause."
Richard Hildreth, Esq., says: "No one can deny to the present work the merit of great ability and great learning. If any one wishes to see this argument handled in a masterly manner, with great clearness and plainness, and an array of constitutional learning, which, in the hands of most lawyers, would have expanded into at least three royal octavos, we commend them to Mr. Spooner's modest pamphlet of one hundred and fifty-six pages."
Elihu Burritt says: "It evinces a depth of legal erudition which would do honor to the first jurist of the age."
The True American (Cortland county, New York) says: "It is an imperishable and triumphant work—a law argument that would add to the fame of the most famed jurist, living or dead."
The Bangor Gazette says: "It is indeed a masterly argument. No one, unprejudiced, who has compared that instrument (the Constitution) contained guarantees of slavery, or who has had doubts upon the point, can rise from the perusal without feeling relieved from the supposition that our great national charter is one of slavery, and not of freedom. And no lawyer can read it without admiring, besides the other great excellences, the clearness of its style and its logical precision."
The Hampshire Herald (Northampton) says: "It is the work of the most gifted intellect in the country."
The Worcester County Gazette says: "Mr. Spooner, we think, has clearly shown that it (slavery) has no constitutional foundation."
The Liberty Press (Utica) says: "The author labors to show, and does show, that slavery in this country is unconstitutional, and unsustained by law, either State or Federal."
The Granite Freeman says: "We wish every voter in the Union could have the opportunity of reading this magnificent argument. We should hear no more, after that, of the 'compromises of the Constitution,' as an argument to close the lips and palsy the hands of those who abhor slavery, and labor for its removal."
The Charter Oak says: "Of its rare merit as a controversial argument it is superfluous to speak. It may, in fact, be regarded as unanswerable; and we are persuaded that its general circulation would give a new aspect to the anti-slavery cause, by exploding the popular but mistaken notion that slavery is somehow entrenched behind the Constitution."
The Albany Patriot says: "This effort of Mr. Spooner is a remarkable one in many respects. It is unrivalled in the simplicity, clearness, and force of style with which it is executed. The argument is original, [illegible], and triumphant. It bears down all opposition. Pettifogging, black-letter chicanery and pedantry, special pleading and demagogism, all retire before it. If every lawyer in the country could have it put into his hands, and be induced to study it as he does his brief, it would alone overthrow slavery. There is moral firmness enough in it for that purpose."
The Chronotype calls it "one of the most magnificent constitutional arguments ever produced in any country. It needs such a work as Mr. Spooner's on constitutional law to make the Constitution of the least value to us as a shield of rights."
The Liberty Gazette (Burlington, Vermont) says: "This work cannot be too highly prized or too extensively circulated. Its reasoning is conclusive; and no one can read it without being convinced that the Constitution, instead of being the friend and protector of slavery, is a purely anti-slavery document."
The Indiana Freeman says: "Every Abolitionist should have this admirable work, and keep it in constant circulation among his neighbors."
The Worcester Ægis says: "This work is one of the ablest, perhaps *the* ablest of all the arguments pro and con, upon the subject of slavery, that has yet emanated from the American press. No one who feels the least interest whatever in this great question should fail to possess himself of a copy."